THE IBIS.

NEW SERIES.

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I.—*The Ornithology of India.—A Commentary on* Dr. Jerdon's '*Birds of India.*' By Edward Blyth, late Curator of the Museum of the Asiatic Society at Calcutta, Hon. Mem. As. Soc.

[Continued from 'The Ibis' for 1866, page 376.]

377. Chleuasicus ruficeps, Blyth; "*Paradoxornis sphenura,* Hodgson," G. R. Gray, Cat. B. Nepal, 2nd edit. p. 60.

382. Grammatoptila striata.

This bird builds a compact Jay-like nest; the eggs are spotless blue, as shown by one of Mr. Hodgson's drawings in the British Museum.

384. Gampsorhynchus rufulus.

The range of this species extends to the Tenasserim provinces (J. A. S. B. xxviii. p. 416).

385. Pyctorhis sinensis (Gmel.); *Timalia hypoleuca,* Frankl.; Mag. de Zool. 1835, pl. 39 (*figura mala*).

386. Pyctorhis longirostris (*cf.* Appendix, p. 872).

Most probably this bird is the *Megalurus* (?) *verreauxi* of Colonel Tytler (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1854, xiv. p. 176).

387. Trichostoma abbotti.

This differs very little—in the shade of colouring only—from *Brachypteryx sepiaria,* Horsfield, which is identical with *Malaco-*

pterum olivaceum, Strickland, and probably with the *Myiothera grisea* of Müller, in the Derby Museum at Liverpool, from Malacca and Java, and for which I formerly mistook a species of *Alcippe* received from Java, mentioned by Dr. Jerdon (vol. ii. p. 19) as *Brachypteryx sepiaria* of Horsfield. This Javan *Alcippe* resembles *A. nipalensis,* but has a general rufous tinge, with the sincipital lines ferruginous.

388. ALCIPPE NIPALENSIS.

Mr. Hodgson figures a deeply formed nest, with reddish-white eggs, speckled with deep ferruginous, the spots clustered at the large end, as belonging to this species. Mr. Layard describes that of the Cinghalese *A. nigrifrons* (which is akin to *A. atriceps*) as "built in a low thorny bush, and composed of grasses woven together in a dome, with the entrance near the top; eggs white, slightly freckled with pink spots" (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1853, xi. 397) *.

391. STACHYRHIS NIGRICEPS.

Inhabits the mountains of Tenasserim as well as the localities mentioned by Dr. Jerdon.

392. STACHYRHIS PYRRHOPS, Hodgs.; Gould, B. As. pt. xv. pl.

According to Mr. Gould, this species, and not *S. chrysea,* is the bird which Dr. A. Leith Adams obtained in Kashmir (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 184). The egg, as figured by Mr. Hodgson, is whitish, a little speckled. That of *S. chrysea* is pinkish-white, and the nest domed and placed on the summit of a sedge. *S. præcognitus* lays a blue egg (Ibis, 1866, p. 309).

393. STACHYRHIS RUFICEPS.

The *Timalia pileata* of M'Clelland from Asám (P. Z. S. 1839, p. 160) is this bird, though the true *T. pileata* is likewise an inhabitant of the Brahmaputra valley.

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* To the species of *Turdinus* noticed in 'The Ibis' for 1865 (p. 47) add *Myiothera epilepidota,* Temm. (Pl. Col. 448. fig. 2), from Sumatra and Java. *Napothera,* Temm., yields to *Myiolestes,* Müller (Comptes Rendus, 1854, xxxviii. p. 54). *Trichostoma umbratile* (Temm.) and *T. celebense,* Strickland (Contrib. Orn. 1849, pp. 126, 127, pl. xxxv.), approach *T. abbotti* and *T. sepiarium.* The former only differs from *T. abbotti* in having "more rufous wings and flanks, and less greyish-white on the lores" (Sclater, P. Z. S. 1863, p. 215).

395. Mixornis rubricapillus.

Identical with *Timalia gularis*, Horsfield, founded on a faded specimen, as suggested by Dr. Jerdon. It is common on the eastern side of the Bay of Bengal, in Arakan, the Tenasserim Provinces, and Malayan Peninsula, and is remarkable for the disproportionate loudness of its chirping. A second and finer species of *Mixornis* exists in *Timalia similis*, Temm., from Sumatra. Others are given by Bonaparte (Consp. Av. i. p. 217). Specimens of *M. gularis* received from Malacca are generally much faded in colouring from over-exposure to the sun in drying.

397 and 398. Dumetia hyperythra, Franklin, and D. albogularis (Blyth); Gould, B. As. pt. xii. pl.

The last-mentioned bird is the Flaxen Warbler, *Sylvia subflava*, var. A. of Latham (Gen. Hist. B. vii. p. 95), as shown by a specimen, so marked, in the Derby Museum at Liverpool. It is common in Ceylon. *D. hyperythra* is figured and very ill coloured (even as shown by the accompanying description) in the 'Magasin de Zoologie' for 1835 (pl. 40).

402 and 403. Pomatorhinus schisticeps and P. leucogaster.

These resemble each other in colouring; but the former is not only larger but has a proportionately larger and coarser bill and feet, with very much stronger and longer claws. *P. leucogaster* is common in the Dacca district of Eastern Bengal.

To the genus *Pomatorhinus* must be added, not only P. phayrii, as noticed by Dr. Jerdon (Appendix, p. 872), but also P. hypoleucus, nobis (J. A. S. B. xiii. p. 379, xiv. p. 559, xxiv. p. 273), which is figured as *P. albicollis*, Hodgson, by Gray and Mitchell (Gen. B. pl. 57), the range of both species extending from Nipâl to the Khásya hills and those of Arakan. *P. phayrii* differs from *P. ferruginosus* not "only in the crown being of the same colour as the back" (ii. p. 29), but also in having the bill of the usual colour, yellow with dusky ridge, instead of bright coral-red in the fresh specimen. The ferruginous colour of the breast is also less deep. A closely allied race to *P. phayrii* inhabits the Tenasserim provinces, *P. albogularis* (J. A. S. B. xxiv. p. 274). A Tenasserim specimen of *P. hypoleucus* is remarkable for having narrow white mesial streaks to the feathers of the nape (of which I could perceive no trace in Arakan specimens), and similar well-defined but wider streaks on the dark ash-coloured sides of the breast, which were little more than indicated in the Arakan specimens examined. Perhaps it is a distinct race, but more probably merely a particularly fine adult specimen of *P. hypoleucus,* as in the figure cited (taken from a Nipâlese example) the stripes on the sides of the breast are fairly developed. Col. Tickell, who procured the Tenasserim specimen, demurs to its being classed as a *Pomatorhinus.* He says, " Examine narrowly the bill, which will be found softer in texture (this, however, in a dry skin cannot be well perceived) and subcylindrical, whereas *Pomatorhinus* has the bill exceedingly compressed and hard. Then the shape of the head with its flat sinciput, and the fan-like broad tail." Should it be deemed advisable to detach *P. hypoleucus* from *Pomatorhinus,* a second and less typical species exists in *P. erythrogenys* of the Himalaya.

406. XIPHORHAMPHUS SUPERCILIARIS, Blyth ; Gould, B. As. pt. ix. pl.

According to Mr. Hodgson the egg is white.

426 and 427. TROCHALOPTERUM LINEATUM and T. IMBRICATUM.

The former (and not the latter) is the *Cinclosoma setifer* of Mr. Hodgson as sent by him to the Calcutta Museum. I have seen numerous specimens from Sikhim and Nipâl, but *T. imbricatum* only from Butan, though I have long especially looked for it in Darjeeling collections. Dr. Adams (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 182) refers it to *Malacocercus* ! The form is proximate to *Leucodiophron* of China and Formosa *.

408. GARRULAX CÆRULATUS.

The egg is bright blue, according to Mr. Hodgson. Mr. Swinhoe has a closely allied species, *G. pœcilorhyncha,* from

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* The Malayan genus *Lophocitta,* referred to by Dr. Jerdon, I now consider to bear a near affinity to *Parus,* as does also the African form *Eurycephalus,* and certainly *Falcunculus* and *Oreœca* of Australia.

Formosa; and his *G. ruficeps*, from the same island, is nearly allied to *G. albogularis* (Gould, B. As. pt. xvi.).

410. GARRULAX RUFICOLLIS.

Mr. Hodgson figures the egg of a fine green colour.

414. GARRULAX OCELLATUS.

Surely a *Trochalopterum* rather than a *Garrulax*.

415. TROCHALOPTERUM ERYTHROCEPHALUM.

Mr. Hodgson figures a green egg, spotted much like that of *Turdus musicus*, as that of the present species.

417. TROCHALOPTERUM SUBUNICOLOR.

The eggs are green according to Mr. Hodgson.

422. TROCHALOPTERUM PHŒNICEUM.

Mr. Hodgson figures a beautiful compact nest, bound round with long lanceolate leaves.

423 and 424. TROCHALOPTERUM CACHINNANS and T. JERDONI.

In the development of the loral plumes these two species from Southern India resemble the Sumatran *Garrulax mitratus*.

427. ACTINODURA EGERTONI.

Mr. Hodgson figures the nest of this bird like that of an English Redbreast, with pinkish-white eggs. *Crocias guttatus*, Temm. (Pl. Col. 592), of Sumatra and Java, is a species not distantly allied to this.

428. ACTINODURA NIPALENSIS.

One of Mr. Hodgson's drawings represents a white egg with ferruginous spots, disposed much as in that of *Merula vulgaris*. This bird is the type of his genus *Hemipterum*.

429. SIBIA CAPISTRATA.

Mr. Hodgson figures a cup-shaped nest fixed in a branched twig.

432. MALACOCERCUS TERRICOLOR.

This species is undoubtedly the *Turdus canorus* of Linnæus, and the *Merula bengalensis* of Brisson, founded on Edwards's badly coloured figure (Nat. Hist. B. pl. 184).

435. MALACOCERCUS SOMERVILLII.

To this must be referred Mr. Swinhoe's *M. griseus* from Bombay (Ibis, 1865, p. 416). I do not find that Dr. Jerdon mentions that any of the true *Malacocerci* are "fair songsters," but rather that he distinctly intimates the reverse. The true *Malacocerci* are confined to India with Ceylon; but the allied genus *Chatorhea* extends to Northern Burma* and also to North Africa; for I consider the *Crateropus fulvus* (Desf.) (*Malurus numidicus*, Lev. jun., Expl. Sc. de l'Algerie, Ois., pl. ix. *bis*), noticed by Mr. Tristram (Ibis, 1859, p. 420), as also the *C. chalybius*, Bonap. (Ibis, 1859, p. 30, 1865, p. 79), with *C. rubiginosus*, Rüppell (Vögel Nord-Ost-Afrika's, taf. 19), to be three typical species of *Chatorhea*; while the *Malurus squamiceps* and the *M. acaciæ* of Rüppell seem referable to the peculiar type exemplified by *Malacocercus malcolmi* of India. This type I formerly denominated *Malcolmia*; but the name is preoccupied in botany. Dr. Rüppell has referred the two species last named to *Sphenura* (Vögel Nord-Ost-Afrika's)!

438. CHATORHEA CAUDATA.

The specimen described as *C. huttoni* (J. A. S. B. xvi. p. 476), from Kandahar, is larger than any that I have seen from India, having the wing 3·5 inches long and the middle tail-feathers exceeding 5 inches. According to Dr. Pucheran, the Bengal bird is equally found in the Philippine Islands (Arch. du Mus. vii. p. 342).

439. CHATORHEA EARLII (Blyth); *Malacocercus geochrous*, Hodgson.

440. MEGALURUS PALUSTRIS.

Occurs in the Philippines. I observed both this species and *Pyctorhis sinensis* to abound in bush-jungle near Akyab harbour. Mr. Wallace has a very fine species, *M. timoriensis*, from Western Timor.

442. SCHŒNICOLA PLATYURA.

I imposed this generic name in 1844 (J. A. S. B. xiii. p. 374). Prince Bonaparte afterwards (Consp. Av. 1850, p. 463) applied it to that section of Buntings of which the British *Emberiza*

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* For remarks on the climate and productions of the Upper Irawádi, *vide* J. A. S. B. 1862, xxxi. p. 193.

schœniclus is the type, and for which Mr. Gould has adopted it in the 'Birds of Great Britain' (pt. vii.).

443. EURYCERCUS BURNESI.

This will have to stand as *Laticilla burnesi.* The name *Eurycercus* was first given; but I altered it to *Laticilla,* because the former had been already bestowed on a genus of *Entomostraca* (J. A. S. B. xiv. p. 596).

445 and 446. HYPSIPETES GANEESA and H. NILGIRIENSIS.

These are specifically identical (Ibis, 1865, p. 42).

447. HYPSIPETES MACLELLANDI.

The nest and eggs of this species as figured by Mr. Hodgson are those of a true Bulbul. *H. holti,* Swinhoe, of China, is closely allied.

448. HEMIXUS FLAVALA, Hodgson; *Pycnonotus flavula,* Gray and Mitchell, Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. 59.

Mr. Gray spells the specific name *flavula.* It is *flav-ala* of Mr. Hodgson. The range of this species extends to the Tenasserim provinces (J. A. S. B. xxiv. p. 277). *Microscelis,* Swains., is nearly allied, founded on the *Orpheus* (!) *amaurotis* of the 'Fauna Japonica' (Aves, pl. xxxi. B). But a second species of *Hemixus* exists in the *Iole cinerea,* A. Hay (J. A. S. B. xiv. p. 573). *Ixus virescens,* Temm. (Pl. Col. 332), seems referable to my *Iole*; in which case *Iole virescens,* nobis (J. A. S. B. xiv. p. 573), needs renaming, and I therefore here alter the name to *Iole viridescens.*

451. CRINIGER FLAVEOLUS.

Found also in the Tenasserim mountains (J. A. S. B. xxiv. p. 277).

Pycnonotus ruficaudatus, Eyton, is not *Trichophorus gularis,* Horsfield, but is identical with *Criniger cantori,* Moore.

452. IXUS LUTEOLUS.

Common in the Midnapore jungles, but does not extend on to the plains of Lower Bengal, or but sparingly to its extreme limits. It is common in Ceylon.

454. KELAARTIA PENICILLATA.

First noticed by Dr. Jerdon as the "Yellow-eared Bulbul" (Madr. Journ. Lit. Sc. no. xxx. p. 168), and together with it a "White-eared Bulbul," which has not since been identified. Both are from the Mysore country, below the Nilgiris; but the skins were accidentally destroyed before he took descriptions of them. The notice of the latter species is as follows:—"Above light green, below greenish-yellow; head, neck, and breast dusky-grey; ear-spot white."

Rubigula aberrans, nobis (ii. p. 88), is referred by Lord Walden (Ibis, 1866, pp. 321, 423) to *Muscicapa melanictera*, Gmelin, but is still retained in *Rubigula*. A common species in Ceylon (Ibis, 1860, p. 358, note).

457. Brachypodius poiocephalus; *Ixus fisqueti*, Eydoux and Souleyet, Voy. de la Bonite, Atlas, Ois., pl. 15.

460. Otocompsa jocosa.

As many as four races have been confounded under this name:—1, that of China, which is the true *Lanius jocosus*, L.;—2, that of Bengal and Nipâl, which is *Lanius emeria*, Shaw, *Ixus pyrrhotis*, Hodgson;—3, that of Southern India, which is *O. fuscicaudata*, Gould (P. Z. S. 1865, p. 664);—4, that of the eastern side of the Bay of Bengal, its range extending from the hills south of the Bráhmáputra valley as far southward as Pinang, which is *I. monticolus*, Maclelland. The last differs from *L. emeria* in having a shorter crimson ear-tuft, of a much deeper colour, and the feathers composing it are more rigid and wiry. O. fuscicaudata, of Southern India, has no white spots on the tail-feathers; and there does not appear to be a representative of this particular type in Ceylon. Mr. Gould first called my attention to the distinction of the South Indian race. The Chinese race I only *presume* to be peculiar, for I have had no opportunity of comparing it with the others. According to Mr. Swinhoe, Chinese specimens are "identical with the Calcutta race." It ranges from Canton southward.

462. Pycnonotus hæmorrhous of India, *auctorum*.

This must now stand as *P. pusillus*, nobis, the true *Muscicapa hæmorrhousa*, Gm., referring to *Ixus chrysorrhoides* of Mr. Swinhoe's list (*P. atricapillus*, A. Hay), which is figured as *Ixus hæmorrhous* in the Ornithological Report accompanying the narrative of Commodore Perry's Expedition. The Tenasserim *Pycnonotus nigropileus* there noticed is more nearly akin to *P. pusillus* of Arakan and Southern India, and differs only from the Malayan *P. crocorrhous*, Strickland, by having the lower tail-coverts crimson instead of flame-coloured, while in the Javan *P. chrysorrhous*, Horsfield, they are orpiment-yellow. It is not unlikely that these four races will prove to grade into each other. From the Deyra Doon I have seen Bulbuls resembling *P. pusillus* in colouring, but as large as *P. pygæus*, these being referable to *P. intermedius*, A. Hay, noticed by Dr. Jerdon, and doubtless identical with *P. bengalensis* mentioned by Dr. Adams as being common in the ranges near the plains of the Punjâb (P. Z. S. 1849, p. 181).

Genus Phyllornis (vol. ii. p. 97).

There are two types of this genus,—one with a melliphagous bill and verditer-blue shoulder, common to India and the Malay countries; the other with the bill more resembling that of *Iora*, and peculiar to the Malay countries. To the latter type belong *P. javensis* (*P. sonnerati*, Jard. & Selby; Gould, B. As. pt. xiii.) and *P. cyanopogon*, T. (*ibid.*), which differ only, though considerably, in size, the rest appertaining to the melliphagous type. In the former of these subgroups, if not also in the other, I suspect that adults of both sexes are similar, or very nearly so, the plumage commonly supposed to be feminine being that of immaturity. In the allied genus *Iora*, however, the sexes are differently coloured. I recognized the affinity of *Iora* to *Phyllornis* immediately upon becoming acquainted with the latter in a state of nature (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1849, xx. p. 384, &c.). The two groups have the same geographical distribution. The two sections of *Phyllornis* indicated are, I think, sufficiently distinct to be separately recognized; and I would restrict the name *Phyllornis* to the *javensis* type, and adopt *Chloropsis*, Jard. & Selby, for the other. The range of the Malayan *P. javensis* extends to the higher mountains of the Tenasserim provinces (J. A. S. B. xxiv. p. 277), where it occurs together with *C. hardwickii* and *C. hodgsoni*. The last-named species was obtained by Mr. Blanford seventy miles above Ava (J. A. S. B. xxxii. p. 79). *C. cochinchinensis*, nobis (Jerdon, ii. p. 98), is the *P. icteroce-*

phalus, Temm., which is common throughout the Burmese countries and Malayan Peninsula; Strickland referred it to *P. moluccensis* (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1847, xix. p. 130). I suspect that it is the true *C. cochinchinensis,* rather than the allied Javan species.

463 and 464. Phyllornis jerdoni and P. malabaricus; Gould, B. As. pt. xiii. pls.

The last is common in Ceylon.

465. Phyllornis aurifrons of India, *auctorum*; *P. hodgsoni,* Gould, B. As. pt. xiii. pl.

P. aurifrons, Temm. (Pl. Col. 484. fig. 1), is stated to be from Pallambang in Sumatra.

466. Phyllornis hardwickii (Jard. & Selb.); Gould, B. As. pt. xiii. pl.

P. javensis and *P. cyanopogon* are likewise figured by Mr. Gould.

468. Iora typhia.

This bird is found without variation of colouring over the Indo-Chinese countries, the Malayan Peninsula, Sumatra, Java, and Borneo. In Lower Bengal the cap and back have rarely some admixture of the black of *I. zeylanica*; and Col. Tytler remarks that it "assumes a much blacker appearance" in Dacca than those obtained in the vicinity of Calcutta (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1854, xiv. p. 174). A species peculiar to the Malayan countries (found alike in the Peninsula, Sumatra, Java, and Borneo) is *I. scapularis,* Horsf. ♀; and the male is Mr. Wallace's *I. viridissima* of Borneo, and, I suspect, *I. viridis* also. The large *I. lafresnayi* (*I. innotata,* nobis) ranges at least from Arakan to Malacca.

470. Oriolus kundoo.

This only differs from *O. galbula* in its larger and differently shaped bill, and in having some black feathers posterior to the eye. It visits Kashmir, and is probably the supposed *O. galbula* of Irkutsk.

471. Oriolus indicus is identical with *O. chinensis,* L., but not with "la Couliavan de la Cochin-Chine" (Pl. Enl. 570), which is more like *O. acrorhynchus,* Vigors, of the Philippines,

figured by Gray and Mitchell (Gen. Birds, pl. 58), and also *O. macrourus*, nobis, of the Nicobar Islands. Another species akin to the two latter is *O. frontalis*, Wallace (P. Z. S. 1862, p. 333, *Aves*, pl. xl.), from the Sula Islands, midway between Celebes and the Moluccas. *O. hippocrepis* of Java differs from *O. chinensis* (*O. indicus*, Briss.) in its smaller size, having the wing 5 inches long only, and the yellow border to the secondaries much reduced.

473. Oriolus ceylonensis, Bp.; *O. melanocephalus*, C. W. Hahn, Vögel, &c. pt. vi. tab. 5.

474. Oriolus trailli is not the "only" species of the division *Psarophulus*, to which *O. sanguinolentus*, Temm. (Pl. Col. 499), of Java and likewise Mr. Swinhoe's *P. ardens* of Formosa (Ibis, 1862, pl. xiii.) appertain.

475. Copsychus saularis* (L.); Gould, B. As. pt. xv. pl. "Identically the same in China" (Swinhoe). In Ceylon the females (so far as I have seen) have the back blackish, like those of the Malayan *C. mindanensis*; whereas in Bengal and other parts of India, and also in Burmah, the females have the back comparatively pale ashy. The female of the Chinese bird I have not seen; but Mr. Swinhoe remarks (Ibis, 1864, p. 422, note) that "the female of the Ceylon *Copsychus* differs as much from the male as ours," *i. e.* the Chinese bird. The males from China, India, and Ceylon are undistinguishable. As Dr. Jerdon recognizes the slight distinction between the Dhyals (*Copsychus*) and the Shámas (*Cittocincla*), and I believe that most ornithologists would do so if familiar with the living birds, he should have referred the *Turdus luzoniensis* of Kittlitz to the latter, and not to the former, in which, however, he has followed Dr. Sclater (P. Z. S. 1861, p. 186). All of the Shámas have more or less of bright ferruginous colouring, more delicately formed pinkish tarsi and toes, and generally a more lengthened

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* This word is not a misprint for *solaris*, as has been suggested, Linnæus having evidently latinized Ray's "Saulary," the name under which that naturalist figured the species. Levaillant's translation of the native word "Dhyal" or "Dial" into *cadran* is rather an amusing mistake.

tail. They are, moreover, forest birds in their habits, not affecting, like the Dhyals, the vicinity of human abodes, and they are far superior as songsters. The most intermediate species known to me is *Cittocincla albiventris*, nobis, common in the Andamáns; and the song of this bird is inferior to that of other Shámas—though still not Dhyal-like, being much deeper in tone. Had a solitary specimen been obtained on the mainland, it would probably have been considered a hybrid between *Copsychus saularis* and *Cittocincla macrura*,—*C. saularis* being also an inhabitant of the Andamáns, but not *C. macrura*, so far as known; and it is most unlikely to have escaped the eye and ear of Col. Tytler*.

477. MYIOMELA LEUCURA.

Congeneric with, and most closely allied to, *Notodela diana*, Lesson, as suggested by me in 1847 (J. A. S. B. xvi. p. 138), to which the generic name *Ajax* has been applied, holding precedence of *Myiomela*. *A. leucurus* was obtained by Col. Tickell in the Amherst district, Tenasserim; and *A. diana* is described from Pegu, and was procured by Mr. Wallace in Western Java. He refers it to *Brachypteryx albifrons*, Boie (Bp. Consp. Av. i. p. 257). The only distinctions between the two consist in *A. diana* being brighter-coloured and having the white lunate mark on the forehead. A third species of *Ajax* is Mr. Swinhoe's *M. montium* (Ibis, 1864, p. 362). Mr. Hodgson figures a mossy nest and clay-coloured egg, much pointed at the small end, as those of *A. leucurus*.

478. GRANDALA CŒLICOLOR, Hodgs.; Gould, B. As. pt. xiv. pl., is figured also perched upon a twig by Gray and Mitchell (Gen.

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* In the Report of the Proceedings of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, for May 1865, a communication from Mr. T. F. Peppé, of Gya, is published, wherein that gentleman remarks:—"An annual *mela*, or fair, is held at Budhpore during the Churruk Puja festival, to which, amongst other things, are brought, I understand, numbers of young birds for sale, chiefly the Sháma (*Cittocincla macrura*) and young Parrakeets (*Palæornis rosa*). I imagine that it is from these fairs, which appear to be usual in many places in the district at this particular festival, many of those birds are collected which eventually find their way for sale to Calcutta, and are said to come from the Rajmehal hills."

Birds, pl. 50). I doubt if it is ever seen to perch. As noticed on a former occasion, this remarkable bird bears considerable resemblance in structure to *Sialia arctica*; but its habits are gregarious, the flocks, as observed by the late Capt. Speke, keeping to the margin of the snow-line, and seeking their food where the snow melts—a mode of life assuredly most remarkable for a species the males of which exhibit such intense brilliancy of colouring.

479 and 480. THAMNOBIA FULICATA and T. CAMBAIENSIS.

To judge from skins only, these might well be supposed to be the same species in summer and winter dress; but such is not the case; each is found at all seasons within its own range of distribution,—that of *T. fulicata* extending to Ceylon, and that of the other not reaching to Lower Bengal.

481. PRATINCOLA CAPRATA (Linn.); ♀ "*Œnanthe pyrrhonota,* Vieillot" (Pucheran); from Timor.

I never knew this species to occur *wild* in Lower Bengal; but it is kept there as a cage-bird, and known as the *Pidha*.

482. PRATINCOLA BICOLOR (Sykes); *P. atrata,* nobis; ♀ *Saxicola erythropygia,* Sykes.

483 and 484. PRATINCOLA INDICA and P. LEUCURA, Gould, B. As. pts. xv., xviii. pls.

The range of *P. caprata* extends to Timor, Flores, and Lombok, and that of *P. indica* (Gould, B. Asia, pt. xv. pl.) and *P. ferrea* to China; the last occurs also in Arakan and the Tenasserim provinces. The voice of *P. indica* is notably different from that of the European *P. rubicola.*

485. PRATINCOLA INSIGNIS.

Hitherto this fine species has been known only from a single male. I detected a female in Mr. Gould's collection, which was sent to him by Dr. Jerdon, who must have somehow overlooked it. The female is a very dingy bird, plain brown, with some white at base of tail and a little at the sides of the breast. The fact of Dr. Jerdon's procuring a specimen shows that it is not exclusively Tibetan.

487. Rhodophila melanoleuca, Jerdon; Gould, B. As. pt. xviii. pl.

This genus seems to be identical with *Oreicola,* Bonap. (Comptes Rendus, 1854, p. 6, misprinted *Oreoica,* p. 10*), at least as exemplified by *O. melanoleuca* and *O. luctuosa,* Bonap., of Timor. In this case it is necessary to rename the Indian species, which I here designate Oreicola jerdoni. In his 'Appendix' (p. 872), Dr. Jerdon refers *Pratincola ferrea* (no. 486) to the same genus; but I would decidedly retain it as a somewhat aberrant *Pratincola* †.

488 and 489. Saxicola leucuroides, Guérin; *Dromolæa opistholeuca* (Strickl.), Gould, B. As. pt. xxii. pl., and S. picata, Gould, B. As. pt. xvii. pl.

I regard both of these as true *Saxicolæ,* however much the former may resemble *Dromolæa leucura* in coloration. Mr. Gould figures brown females to both of these birds; but that of *S. opistholeuca* more especially, has so much the appearance of *S. œnanthe* that it might well be occasionally mistaken for the British species. Hence I suspect that Indian specimens referred hitherto to *S. œnanthe* might be re-examined advantageously. *S. leucuroides*, Guérin, is figured in the Atlas to MM. Ferret and Galenier's 'Voyage en Abyssinie' (Zoologie, pl. xi.).

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* *Oreoica* (potius *Oreœca*), Gould, is a well-known Australian form of Titmouse.

† Mr. Wallace, P. Z. S. 1863, p. 485, enumerates four species of *Saxicola* —three of which he assigns to Timor, and one to Lombok. Now the true *Saxicolæ* (or Wheatears) are, in India, peculiar to the North-west Provinces, and are wholly foreign to the Indo-Chinese and Malayan countries. I was therefore curious to examine Mr. Wallace's specimens, and found that his *Saxicola dumetoria,* from Lombok, is allied to *Xanthopygia,* nobis; while *S. pyrrhonota,* Müller (as identified by Mr. Wallace), of Timor, is akin in form to the last, and also to *Siphia,* Hodgson, though peculiar in its coloration. Neither of these range properly with the *Oreicolæ.* Of the latter, *O. melanoleuca,* Bonap., is clearly *Œnanthe melanoleuca,* Vieillot, from Timor, as noticed by Dr. Pucheran (Arch. du Muséum, vii. p. 347). It cannot, therefore, be identical with *Melicophila picata,* Gould, B. Austr. iv. pl. 49 (*Lichnotentha picata,* Cab. Mus. Hein. i. p. 116), as Dr. Pucheran suggests. *Œ. pyrrhonota,* Vieillot, from Timor is identified by the same naturalist with *Pratincola caprata* ♀, also from Timor and in Mr. Wallace's collection from that island. The fact that *O. jerdoni* (*Rhodophila melanoleuca,* Jerdon) so long continued unobserved in Bengal may indicate that other species yet remain to be discovered in the intervening countries between Bengal and Timor.

490. SAXICOLA CAPISTRATA, Gould, B. As. pt. xvii.

Distinct from *S. leucomela* (Pallas), which is also figured by Mr. Gould (*cf.* Ibis, 1866, p. 409).

492. SAXICOLA ATROGULARIS, nobis; Gould, Birds of Asia, pt. xvii. pl.

Distinct from *S. deserti*, Rüppell, as is also a fine new species akin to it, *S. montana*, received from Tibet (*cf.* Ibis, *ut suprà*). Both of these also are represented to have brown females*.

Genus CERCOMELA, Bonap. (ii. p. 133).

Among the characters of this group, as distinguished from *Saxicola*, should be noticed the comparative shortness of the tarsi.

495. RUTICILLA PHŒNICURA.

As Dr. Jerdon remarks in his 'Appendix' (p. 876), this should probably be erased as distinct from *R. phœnicuroides*. The *Phœnicura ruticilla* of Mr. Ewer's list (P. Z. S. 1842, p. 92) was doubtless *P. rufiventris*.

500. RUTICILLA AUROREA.

Specimens of this bird occur, rarely, in collections from Malacca, where of course it must be a winter visitant; and it is the only Redstart which I have seen from the Malayan peninsula.

504. RUTICILLA CÆRULEOCEPHALA.

The female of this bird is coloured very differently from the male. It is plain brown, with a whitish belly and a little white on the wings; upper tail-coverts dark ferruginous, and a little of this colour margining the base of the outer tail-feathers.

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* "At the Salt-lake in Ladakh, on one occasion a bird evidently of this genus was observed, about the size of the Whinchat; upper parts a bluish-black; breast black; belly and lower parts white. This I consider a rare, if not an undescribed species. A specimen was not procured." (A. Leith Adams, P. Z. S. 1859, p. 180.)

506. Ruticilla fuliginosa.

Occurs in China and Formosa according to Mr. Swinhoe. Dr. A. Leith Adams mentions a *Ruticilla* that was often seen in Ladakh in like situations with *R. fuliginosa.* "It is smaller: colour a leaden-ashy, with several *white* feathers in the tail. Specimen not procured" (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 179). *Henicurus scouleri* being likewise mentioned, it could not have been that species, as might otherwise have been plausibly suggested.

507. Larvivora cyana, Hodgs.

As Mr. Swinhoe (Ibis, 1866, p. 315) refers the *Motacilla cyana* of Pallas to this genus, identifying it with his *Larvivora gracilis,* the name of the Indian species is forestalled, and it must rank as *L. superciliaris* (Jerdon), as Mr. Swinhoe suggests.

508. Ianthia rufilata (Hodgson).

I. cyanura (Pallas), from China and elsewhere, is distinguished by its white superciliary mark.

510. Tarsiger superciliaris.

I quite agree with Mr. Hodgson in referring this species to *Tarsiger* and not to *Ianthia,* to which Dr. Jerdon has restored it*.

512. Calliope kamtschatkensis.

Received from the Philippines (Ibis, 1865, p. 30).

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* Mr. Gould has two specimens of a bird which can hardly be separated from *Tarsiger*, although the bill is somewhat broader. In other respects the structure is identical. He is not certain whether they are from Africa or India.

Tarsiger cucullatus, Gould, *sp. n.* Dull green above, passing to yellowish on the upper tail-coverts; below bright yellow, with an ash-coloured hood and wings except the smaller coverts; middle tail-feathers entirely dusky-black, the next yellow for two-thirds of the outer web, the next three yellow for the basal three-fourths on both webs, and the outermost feather yellow on the inner web for the basal three-fourths, and the rest of it dusky; a concealed white spot in front of the neck at the border of the grey hood, indicative of affinity to *Cyanecula.* Length 5·5 in., wing 3 in., tail 2·5 in., bill to gape ·62 in., tarsus 1 in. Both specimens evidently males.

514. CYANECULA SUECICA * occurs also at Tientsin (Swinhoe). Captain Hutton says (J. A. S. B. xvi. 780) that the race which is a summer visitor at Kandahar has "no red spot on the blue throat." Dr. Bree remarks (B. Eur. ii. p. 12) that I referred the Indian bird "to the white-spotted variety." Surely I never made such a mistake! In the paper from which he quotes a passage I distinctly assert, of the Indian race, that "its pectoral spot is always rufous instead of white" (J. A. S. B. xvi. p. 135). And again (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1843, xii. p. 100) I have stated that "all have the central mark of the breast rufous and not white." These statements should be sufficiently explicit. Mr. Gould assures me that Indian specimens run smaller than those of Europe. They appear to be identical with *C. dichrosterna*, Cab. (Mus. Hein. 1850, i. p. 1, note) and *C. orientalis*, Brehm (J. f. O. 1854, p. 33).

Dr. Jerdon remarks, with regard to the present species, that I would class the Nightingale with the Robins, while he thinks that it would "associate more naturally" with the *Calamoher-*

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* Nearly all ornithologists have taken it for granted that the *Motacilla suecica* of Linnæus is the form having a white spot in the middle of the blue breast. This is not the case, the true *M. suecica* being expressly stated (Syst. Nat. 12th ed. i. p. 336) to be "pectore ferrugineo," a character possessed by all the Swedish examples we have ever seen. It follows therefore that the *Motacilla cærulecula* of Pallas (Z. R.-A. i. p. 480) is strictly synonymous with *M. suecica*. The form with the white spot was figured as *Sylvia cyanecula*, Meyer and Wolf (Tasch. deutsch. Vögelk. 1822, i. p. 240), and that with the entirely blue breast as *S. wolfi*, Brehm (Lehrb. Europ. Vögel, 1823, i. p. 344, pl.). But Meyer and Wolf certainly did not regard the white-spotted bird as distinct from *M. suecica*, L., and therefore their name "*cyanecula*" cannot be permitted to stand. The name next in point of date, and solely applicable to the white-spotted form, is *S. leucocyanea*, Brehm (Handb. Nat. Vög. Deutschl. 1831, p. 353); and this, accordingly, ought to be adopted for it, as it has been by that author in his latest article on the subject (J. f. O. 1854, pp. 33–36). In a paper by Dr. Altum on the Bluethroats (Naumannia, 1855, pp. 166–170, pl.) he expresses an opinion that there is only one species, and endeavours to show by figures that the various forms are only phases through which each individual successively passes. He does not, however, account for the fact that in Scandinavia the white-spotted is unknown, except perhaps as a straggler, while that which breeds in Holland and Germany as constantly never assumes the red spot.

pinæ. My opinion has always been that the Nightingales are very closely akin to the small Solitary Thrushes of America. Their speckled nestling-plumage is at variance with Dr. Jerdon's view, as is also their mode of nidification. Audubon's description of the song, habits, and nidification of *Turdus wilsoni,* on the contrary, accords remarkably with what we observe of the British Nightingale*.

For some years past (until the time that I left India) a German speculator annually brought a large supply of European singing-birds to Calcutta, including half-a-dozen or more Nightingales on each occasion. I possessed one, in fine song, at the time I quitted the country. Some years ago, also, but not latterly, Nightingales were brought all the way to Calcutta from Persia, *viâ* Afghánistân; but these were of a rather larger species, perhaps *Luscinia major* (*Sylvia philomela,* Temm.), and were scarcely quite equal to the other as songsters. To the natives they are alike known as the *Bulbul Bosta.* In Dr. Hooker's work on the Sikhim Himálaya, "the Nightingale" is referred to, more than once, as an inhabitant of the interior of Sikhim, and as singing at a time of the year (October) in which the real Nightingales are mute. Of course some other bird is intended, though of what species or genus I am unable to conjecture. The Sháma, which is sometimes called the Indian Nightingale, does not inhabit Sikhim. The importation of Nightingales and other European song-birds should be borne in mind in the event of skins of such birds happening to occur in collections brought from India. Dr. A. Leith Adams justly remarks that Moore, in his 'Lalla Rookh,' might have introduced the Swallow in place of the Nightingale. "'The Nightingale's hymn from the Isle of Chunars' is a creation of the poet's imagination. The *Luscinia philomela* is not found in the Western Himalayas" (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 175). Nor in the Eastern Himálayas most assuredly!

515. Acrocephalus brunnescens, Jerd.; *A. orientalis,* G. R. Gray, P. Z. S. 1860, p. 349 (from Batchian). Also occurs in Java.

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* Two species of *Luscinia* from South Africa are mentioned by Dr. Hartlaub (Ibis, 1862, p. 145). Surely these are not veritable Nightingales?

516. ACROCEPHALUS DUMETORUM.

Neither in habits nor in voice does this species accord with *A. streperus* (*Sylvia arundinacea*, Lath.) of Europe, with which Mr. Gould identifies it. It does not affect the vicinity of water; and the same is remarked by the Abbé Caire (Rev. Zool. 1855, p. 65) of the European *A. palustris*—so misnamed. Its song is a soft and pleasing warble. The *S. montana*, Horsf., of Java, referred to by Dr. Jerdon, I now assign to *Neornis*, Hodgson (sinking *Horornis* altogether). Ceylon specimens of *A. dumetorum* appear always to have a distinct greenish shade, but do not otherwise differ from continental examples.

Dr. Jerdon remarks correctly of *A. brunnescens* that it differs from the European *A. arundinaceus* (*Sylvia turdoides*, Meyer) in the first long primary being $\frac{3}{16}$ inch shorter than the next, whereas in the European analogue the first long primary is, if anything, longer than the second,—and that *A. dumetorum* has "the same proportions of the quills" as *A. brunnescens*, the first quill being very minute and pointed, and the second equal to or longer than the sixth. This difference between the Indian and European species of *Acrocephalus* was first pointed out by myself (J. A. S. B. xv. p. 288). *A. brunnescens* is of course the *Calamoherpe turdoides*, from India, of Dr. Jaubert (Rev. Zool. 1855, p. 63).

518. ARUNDINAX AEDON (Pall.); *A. olivaceus*, Blyth (*olim*); *Motacilla aedon*, Pallas; Von Schrenck, Reise Amurl. i. tab. xii. fig. 1.

Common in Eastern Asia, and has been received from the Andamán Islands. Dr. Cabanis erroneously refers *Motacilla aedon*, Pallas, to *Luscinia major*, Brehm.

519. DUMETICOLA AFFINIS.

The bird figured as this, by the name *Calamodyta affinis*, by Gray and Mitchell (Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. xlix. fig. 2) would seem to be *Tribura luteoventris* (no. 522). I have received from Dr. Jerdon two species of this genus, one of which is the true *affinis* (*Salicaria affinis*, Hodgson), and the other may be distinguished as

DUMETICOLA BRUNNEIPECTUS, sp. nov.

Size and form of *D. affinis*, and the upper parts are of the same uniform dark olive-brown colour; lores, chin and throat, and middle of the belly pure white; sides of the throat, breast, flanks, and tibial plumes rufescent brown; lower tail-coverts brown, with broad, pale tips, though considerably less broad than are the white tips to the lower tail-coverts of *D. affinis*. *Hab.* Himálaya?

A third species exists in *Horornis flaviventris,* Hodgson (no. 524). Olive-brown above, with a slight ruddy tinge; below paler; whitish, with a tinge of yellow, on throat and breast; lower tail-coverts brown, with dull whitish tips. Wing 2·12 inches; tail 2·55 in., its outermost feather ·5 in. shorter than the middle ones.

A fourth very probably exists in *Horornis fortipes,* Hodgson (no. 526), to judge from my description of a specimen (J. A. S. B. xiv. p. 585): "Colour uniform dark olive-brown above; below pale ochraceous-brown, approaching to albescent; flanks and lower tail-coverts dark brown, the latter margined paler; bill dusky above, paler below; legs also pale. Length about 4¼ in.; wing 2 in.; and tail 1½ in., its outermost feather ½ in. shorter; bill to gape ⅝ in.; and tarsi ¾ in." Mr. Hodgson writes, however, "Bill slender, with notch and inclination distinct; *rictal hairs distinct.* Tail broad, soft, fan-shaped. Legs strong, and frequently smooth. Wing as in *Tribura,* more or less pointed, and not absolutely rounded as in *Horeites.*"

I think that these three (or four) species of *Dumeticola* might very well be merged in *Locustella*, *L. nævia* has not necessarily an aquatic propensity; for I have observed it in the driest furze-brakes in this country. I suspect that all of this group will be found to have the cartilaginous and stiffened tendons of the muscles of the leg, to which I called attention so long ago as 1834 (Ann. Mag. N. H. vii. p. 341).

520. Locustella nævia, Bodd.; *Sylvia locustella,* Lath. (*vide* J. A. S. B. xxiii. p. 216).

This is very decidedly not the *Motacilla certhiola,* Pallas, as figured by Mr. Gould and Dr. Bree. I still think that it is the British species; perhaps, however, it may be *L. hendersoni,* Cassin (Proc. Acad. Phil. 1858, p. 293) = *L. macropus,* Swinhoe (P. Z. S. 1863, pp. 93, 293). It is not *L. ochotensis,* Middend.

(Sib. Reise, tab. xvi. fig. 7), which I have seen at the British Museum. Mr. Wallace has two fine large species of *Locustella* —*L. fasciolata* (*Acrocephalus fasciatus*, G. R. Gray, P. Z. S. 1860, p. 349), from Batchian, and *L. insularis*, Wallace, from Mati Island, north of Jilolo.

522. TRIBURA LUTEOVENTRIS, Hodgson; *qu.* "*Calamodyta affinis*," Gray and Mitchell, Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. xlix. fig. 2?

Mr. Gould has an Indian specimen, which I think belongs to this species, which he refers to *Sphenœacus*, Strickland (as exemplified by his *S. galactodes*, B. Austr. iii. pl. 35). Mr. Swinhoe describes a *T. squameiceps*, from China, as "allied to *T. luteiventris*, Hodgson, from Nepal" (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 292). *Schœnicola platyura*, Jerdon (no. 412), should probably rank near it, as also *Salicaria* (?) *cinnamomea*, Rüppell (J. A. S. B. xxiv. p. 260).

523. HORORNIS FULVIVENTER, Hodgson (*nec nobis*, Ibis, 1865, p. 33), is identical with *Phylloscopus fuscatus*, nobis (Jerdon, no. 555)!

524. HORORNIS FLAVIVENTRIS.

A true *Dumeticola*, or *Locustella* (*vide suprà sub* no. 519).

525. HORORNIS FULIGINIVENTER.

A *Phylloscopus* akin to no. 523 (*vide infrà sub* no. 555). Mr. G. R. Gray has referred both of these species to *Regulus* (Cat. B. Nepal, p. 64)!

526. HORORNIS FORTIPES.

Probably a *Dumeticola*, or *Locustella* (*vide suprà* sub no. 519). Among the unmounted skins in the British Museum I found specimens sent by Mr. Hodgson as *H. fulviventer*, *H. flaviventris*, and *H. fuliginiventer*, and examples of the first and third at the India Museum, which I do not hesitate to assign as above; also, in both museums, numerous specimens labelled *H. assimilis*, Hodgson, being the species which I had previously considered to be *H. fulviventer* (as in Ibis, 1865, p. 33, where I noticed its close affinity with the Javan *Sylvia montana*, Horsf.). The same bird I formerly described as *Drymœca brevicaudata* (J. A. S. B. xvi. p. 459), and subsequently regarded it as the adult of *Neornis flavolivacea* (Cat. Mus. As. Soc. p. 144), wherein Dr. Jerdon follows me (*cf.* no. 552). I had only young examples of

N. flavolivacea in nestling plumage, and I rightly referred them to the same genus as the other; only the species proves to be different. The matter accordingly resolves itself into this—that *Horornis* becomes reduced to the Javan *H. montanus* (Horsf.) and *H. assimilis,* Hodgson (*Drymœca brevicaudata,* nobis), which I do not think can be separated generically from *Neornis flavolivacea,* Hodgson. It remains to decide which of the two generic names should be retained; and I think that *Horornis,* as the source of so much confusion, had better be abandoned. The following species would then fall under *Neornis*:—1. *Sylvia montana,* Horsf., from Java; 2. *N. assimilis,* Hodgson; and 3. *N. flavolivacea,* Hodgson. *N. assimilis* (*Drymœca brevicaudata,* nobis) is rufescent olive-brown above, much paler beneath, more or less whitish on the throat and belly, and tinged with fulvous on the flanks; fore part of the wing underneath pure yellowish-white. Wing 2 inches; tail 2·25 in., its outermost feathers half an inch shorter; tarsi ·75 in. A specimen from Afghánistân is of a paler general hue, not quite so much inclined to ruddy, and more to greenish; whilst *N. montana* of Java is darker, and wants the rufous tinge above, but has it on the breast and flanks. *N. flavolivacea* is dull greenish-olive above, and dull yellowish below. Mr. Hodgson figures the egg of *N. assimilis* as uniform dark red, and the nest as cup-shaped.

527 and 528. HOREITES BRUNNEIFRONS and H. POLLICARIS. Specimens in the British Museum labelled *H. brunneifrons* and *H. schistilata* are undistinguishable; others marked *H. pollicaris* appear to me to be the same in nestling plumage. *H. robustipes,* Swinhoe, is described from Formosa (Ibis, 1866, p. 398).

530. ORTHOTOMUS LONGICAUDA (Gmel.); *O. phyllorrhapheus,* Swinhoe, Ibis, 1860, p. 49, P. Z. S. 1863, p. 294.

O. patia, as figured by Mr. Hodgson, is a small *Prinia* with *twelve* rectrices. I have had the common Tailor-bird's nest brought to me within ten or a dozen oleander-leaves drawn together, and have also seen it within a single leaf of *Brugmannsia suaveolens,* and commonly within the broad leaves of the brinjal (*Solanum esculentum*). The oleander-leaf nest referred to should be in the Calcutta Museum. Of course the beauty of the nest in the living green leaf is lost in dry specimens.

532. PRINIA FLAVIVENTRIS.

Delessert does not give this bird from the Nilgiris. *P. sonitans*, Swinhoe, of China and Formosa, is nearly allied to it, and lays a similar remarkably coloured egg (bright brick-red, without spots), as *P. socialis* also does occasionally,—such an egg, with the nest, of this species being figured by Mr. Fraser, in his 'Zoologia Typica,' for those of *Drymoipus inornatus*. The European *Cettia sericea* lays a similar egg, and has likewise only ten rectrices; but the *C. africana*, Bonap., has twelve rectrices, and appears to me to be a large *Locustella*.

537. PRINIA CINEREOCAPILLA.

Mr. Hodgson figures *P. stewarti* with this name.

539. CISTICOLA SCHŒNICOLA, Bp.; *C. brunneicephala*, Temm. and Schl.; *C tintinnabulans*, Swinhoe (from Japan, China, and Formosa).

Indian specimens in nestling plumage have the cap more or less completely rufous-brown, which is not the case with some stuffed young *Cisticolæ* in the Zoological Society's house, except just at the forehead.

541. CISTICOLA TYTLERI, Blyth; 'Buff-headed Warbler,' Latham (Ibis, 1865, p. 44).

548. SUYA FULIGINOSA.

Probably identical with *S. atrogularis*. Mr. Hodgson, however, figures the egg of *S. fuliginosa* as rufous-white, with minute rufous specks, that form a zone at the large end; and that of *S. atrogularis* as green, with rufous specks, more numerous at the large end.

SUYA GANGETICA, Jerdon, *in. lit.*, sp. nov.

Plain brown above, rufescent on the head; lower parts much paler; throat whitish. Wing 2·25 inches, tail 3·75 inches.

Common along the Upper Ganges.

550. BURNESIA LEPIDA, Blyth; Gould, B. As. pt. vii. pl.

Identical with *Malurus gracilis*, Rüppell, of Palestine and North-eastern Africa, which specific name holds precedence.

Dr. A. Leith Adams suggests that it may be the *Sylvia textrix* of Savigny (Ibis, 1864, p. 17). According to Mr. Tristram, "it builds a very neat domed nest near the ground, with four or five richly coloured pink eggs. It is a very noisy and conspicuous bird" (P. Z. S. 1864, p. 437). I certainly have no recollection of the Indian bird being noisy; but then I have not observed it in the breeding-season. Skins from India and Egypt are undistinguishable.

551. FRANKLINIA BUCHANANI.

Dr. Jerdon has sent a slightly distinguishable race from the district north-west of Delhi by the name *F. cleghorniæ*. It merely differs in having the upper parts pale rufescent brown, deepening and becoming more rufescent on the crown. I made over to Mr. Gould the only specimen sent.

552. NEORNIS FLAVOLIVACEA (*vide suprà sub* no. 526).

553. PHYLLOPNEUSTE RAMA; *Sylvia rama*, Sykes (1832); *S. scita*, Eversmann; *S. caligata*, Licht.; *Salicaria elaica* (?), Lindermeyer; *Ficedula ambigua* (?), Schlegel.

I have compared Indian with Siberian specimens marked *S. scita* in Mr. Gould's collection, and consider them identical, —the latter being in summer aspect of plumage, with abraded feathers that show greyer and much less olivaceous (as, indeed, I have seen in some Indian examples), agreeing with Dr. Bree's figure of *Sylvia elaica**. The range of the latter extends to Egypt and Algeria. I have never obtained *P. rama* in the immediate neighbourhood of Calcutta, upon the mud soil; but higher up the river Hugli, where sand prevails, it is tolerably common in the cold season, frequenting the bush-jungle. Can Dr. Jerdon be correct regarding the nest? He remarks, "I have found the nest, on one occasion only, at Jaulna, in the Deccan; it was cup-shaped, and contained four pure white eggs." (For further particulars of *P. rama*, consult J. A. S. B. xvi. p. 440.) *Sylvia eversmanni*, Bonap. (Middend. Sib. Reise, tab. xvi. fig. 1), belongs evidently to the same genus, as also

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* I have not been able to compare a specimen of *P. rama* with the figure of *P. elaica* by Des Murs (Icon. Orn. pl. 58. f. 1). But I much suspect the identity, so far as I can judge from that figure.

Phyllopneuste schwarzi, Radde (Reisen, &c., taf. ix. figs. 1 *a*, *b*, and *c*).

554. PHYLLOSCOPUS TRISTIS, Blyth; Gould, B. As. pt. xvii. pl. In his 'Memoirs of Hugh Edwin Strickland' (p. clxiii) Sir W. Jardine identified (or rather strongly opined the identity of) this species with *P. brevirostris*, Strickland. Mr. Gould considers them distinct, though without mentioning wherein the difference consists.

555. PHYLLOSCOPUS FUSCATUS, nobis (1842); *Horornis fulviventer*, Hodgson (1845); *Sylvia sibirica*, Middendorff (Sib. Reise, tab. xvi. figs. 4–6, 1858).

Common in China, Formosa, and Japan.

Horornis fuliginiventer, Hodgson, is nearly allied to *P. fuscatus*, but much darker in colouring. Plain dusky brown above, paler and somewhat fulvescent below, with dull yellowish-white chin and superciliary streak. Outermost tail-feather $\frac{1}{16}$ inch shorter than the rest. Wing 2 inches, tail 1·75 inch.

"557. PHYLLOSCOPUS TROCHILUS."

In his 'Appendix' (iii. p. 876), Dr. Jerdon doubts the propriety of retaining this European species in his list. Mr. Gould remarks (in his 'Birds of Great Britain,' pt. i.) that "in several works lately published, I am made to state that this bird is found in India; now I do not deny having made such an assertion; but if I have, I must have been deceived, for I have no positive evidence of its having been found there." The assertion occurs in the Zoological 'Proceedings' for 1835 (p. 90), "Inhabiting Europe generally, and the western portions of India." For the present it may, therefore, be safely erased.

559. PHYLLOSCOPUS NITIDUS.

Through some misconception Mr. F. Moore (Cat. Mus. H. E. I. Co. p. 343) placed this as a synonym of *Reguloides superciliosus* (*Regulus modestus*, Gould), as cited (*cf.* Ibis, 1862, pp. 55 and 386). No two species are more palpably dissimilar. Mr. Layard procured it in Ceylon.

563. REGULOIDES OCCIPITALIS.

This species, which is closely allied to *Sylvia coronata*, Temm.

and Schl. (Faun. Japon. Aves, pl. xviii.), does not rank well as a *Reguloides*. It has longer and firmer wings than the other Indian species of the group.

564. REGULOIDES TROCHILOIDES.

Not uncommon, rather than "very common," about Calcutta during the cold season; and the same remark applies to *Phylloscopus affinis* (no. 561).

565. REGULOIDES SUPERCILIOSUS (Gmelin); *Regulus modestus*, Gould; *Phyllobasileus superciliosus*, Cab. J. f. O. 1853, taf. 1.

566. REGULOIDES PROREGULUS (Pallas); *Abrornis chloronotus*, Hodgson.

Mr. Swinhoe remarks, "In the summer of 1857 I found the pine-groves abounding with numerous families of *Reguloides proregulus* and *Parus minor*" (Ibis, 1862, p. 257). I have repeatedly observed and shot *R. superciliosus* both in Bengal and Southern Burma, but never met with it otherwise than singly—with the habits of a *Phylloscopus*, and not those of a *Regulus* as Mr. Swinhoe's observation of the nearly allied *R. proregulus* would imply. Mr. Hodgson figures a pendent nest like that of a *Dicæum* as the nest of *R. proregulus* *.

570. CULICIPETA CANTATOR (Tickell), Jerdon, is distinctly an *Abrornis*. I obtained one specimen only of this bird near Calcutta, and Col. Tickell obtained one in Central India. This is the only *Abrornis* I know of which occurs in India southward of the Himálaya.

574. ABRORNIS FLAVIVENTRIS seems to be identical with *A. superciliaris*, Tickell (J. A. S. B. xxviii. pp. 414, 453). In this case the latter name holds precedence; and the Tenasserim provinces would have to be included in the range of this species.

578. ABRORNIS CASTANEICEPS (Hodgson), Jerdon, is decidedly a *Reguloides*, and is figured as *Regulus castaneiceps* by Gray and Mitchell (Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. 49. f. 1).

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* The North American *Regulus calendula* has not the peculiar feather impending over each nostril of the normal Goldcrests.

Abrornis griseifrons, G. R. Gray (Cat. Birds of Nepal, 2nd ed. p. 33).

"Upper surface olivaceous-yellow; front obscure grey; eyebrows, from nostrils to the hind-head, and throat white; ear-coverts obscure grey and white; wing-coverts fuscous, margined with olivaceous-yellow; quills fuscous-black, margined externally with olivaceous-yellow, and internally with rufous-white; tail fuscous-grey, margined externally with olivaceous-yellow, and internally with rufous-white; beneath the body bright yellow; bill plumbeous, and feet pale. Length 4″ 1‴, wings 2″, tarse 9‴, bill from gape 5‴."

Abrornis maculipennis, nobis, sp. nov.

This is a species allied to *A. superciliaris* (*A. flaviventris*, no. 574), but with two distinct yellowish-white wing-bands and an oval whitish spot at the tip of the outer web of each tertiary. Crown dusky greyish-olive, with white supercilia and albescent medial streak. Upper parts olive-green; the throat and breast ashy; belly, flanks, and rump-band dull yellow; three outer tail-feathers on each side having their inner webs white. Wing 2·75 inches, tail 1·25 inch, tarsi 5·8 inch. From Nipâl or Sikhim. Specimen in the India Museum at Fyfe House.

I cannot recognize the "*Abrornis*" noticed by Dr. A. L. Adams (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 182), which he says is common in the woods and thickets of the lesser ranges of the Western Himalayas. "Approximates pretty closely to the *Abrornis xanthoschistus*, Hodgson, but differs in some respects. Size of *Motacilla trochilus*, Linn.; bill long, slender, and slightly notched, with a few weak bristles at the gape; head, neck, and back leaden-ashy, a white line over the eye; rump and sides tinged with yellow; * * * tail pretty long, olive; wings rounded, first quill very short, second not so long as third, fourth, fifth, and sixth, which are about equal; throat, neck, breast, and lower parts lively yellow; tarsus long, slender, and light brown; lateral toes unequal. Call-note loud; often seen with the *Parus melanolophus*, Vig."

A conspectus of the Indian *Phylloscopus* group may here be acceptable. The numbers are those of Dr. Jerdon's work.

Tickellia hodgsoni (579).
Culicipeta burkii (569).
Abrornis cantator (570).
—— schisticeps (571).
—— xanthoschistus (572).
(Adams's unnamed species, *ut suprà*).
—— albosuperciliaris (573).
—— superciliaris (flaviventris, 574).
—— poliogenys (575).
—— affinis (576).
—— albogularis (577).
—— griseifrons (*ut suprà*).
—— maculipennis (*ut suprà*).
Reguloides trochiloides (564).
Reguloides superciliosus (565).
—— proregulus (566).
—— viridipennis (567).
—— castaneiceps (577).
—— (?) occipitalis (563).
Phylloscopus tristis (554).
—— fuscatus (523 & 555).
—— fuliginiventer (525).
—— magnirostris (556).
—— lugubris (558).
—— nitidus (559).
—— viridanus (560).
—— affinis (561).
—— indicus (532).
Phyllopneuste rama (553).

In China, Mr. Swinhoe refers the following species of *Phylloscopus* (as recognized by Dr. Jerdon) to *Phyllopneuste*:—*P. tenellipes, P. sylvicultrix, P. xanthodryas, P. plumbeitarsa,* and *P. coronatus,* with *Reguloides superciliosus* and *R. proregulus.* From Amuria he gives *P. fuscatus* and *P. borealis,* Blasius. From Japan *P. coronatus.* From Formosa *P. fuscatus, P. coronatus,* and *P. sylvicultrix* (P. Z. S. 1863, pp. 295, 336). From Eastern Siberia M. Gustav Radde gives *P. fuscatus* (*sibiricus*), *P. schwarzi* (taf. ix. fig. 1 *a, b, c*), and *P. coronatus,* with *Phyllopneuste eversmanni* and *Reguloides superciliosus.* A beautiful *Abrornis* from Java is figured as *Phylloscopus trivirgatus* (Temm.) by Strickland (Contrib. Orn. 1849, pl. 34); and Dr. Jerdon regards the *Pycnosphrys grammiceps* (Verreaux), figured on the same plate, as allied to *Reguloides castaneiceps,* from which, however, it should differ by possessing the "beak of the *Muscicapidæ.*"

582. SYLVIA AFFINIS is not nearly allied to the European *S. cinerea* (as is *S. conspicillata*), but differs only in its larger size from *S. curruca.* Mr. Gould, therefore, is wrong in suspecting its identity with *S. cinerea* (B. G. B., pt. vii.).

583. SYLVIA CURRUCA.

This does not occur near Calcutta, but is numerous during the cold season on the sandy soil at some distance up the river Hugli, where the baubul (*Vachelia farnesiana*) grows plentifully.

SYLVIA DELICATULA, Hartlaub (Ibis, 1859, p. 340, pl. ix. fig. 1).

Not rare in the desert country north-west of Delhi. A specimen received from Dr. Jerdon I have made over to Mr. Gould. *Stoparola deserti,* Loche (R. Z. 1858, p. 394, pl. xi. fig. 1), *Sylvia deserticola,* Tristram (Ibis, 1859, p. 58), would seem to be nearly akin.

584. HENICURUS (errore *Enicurus*) MACULATUS, Vigors; Gould, B. As. pt. xviii. pl.

Two species have been confounded under this, respectively inhabiting the East and West Himálaya. The western bird is *H. maculatus,* Vigors; and the eastern species (inhabiting Nipâl, Sikhim, and Butan) is

HENICURUS GUTTATUS, Gould, P. Z. S. 1865, p. 664; B. As. pt. xviii. pl.

Like *H. maculatus*, but smaller, with shorter and *much* narrower tail-feathers, the white on the forehead considerably reduced in extent, and the white spots on the back fewer and small and round (instead of being broad and lunate); an admixture of brown colouring on the occiput. Wing 4 inches, longest tail-feather 4·5 inches.

586. HENICURUS SCHISTACEUS extends its range to China (Swinhoe). The relationship of this genus to the Wagtails I consider to be that of analogy rather than of affinity. The form of the wings and tail, the absence of elongated tertiaries, and the character of the nestling-plumage are alike opposed to the association of them with the true Motacilline birds, or Pipits and Wagtails. They have Myiotherine affinities, as more especially shown by the colouring of *H. ruficapillus,* Temm. (Pl. Col. 534).

"588. HENICURUS NIGRIFRONS" must be erased, it being *H. scouleri* in immature plumage.

The Indian species of *Motacilla* and *Budytes* have already been treated of by me in this journal (Ibis, 1865, pp. 48–50). There are six of the one, *Motacilla maderaspatana, M. hodgsoni, M. luzoniensis, M. personata, M. dukhunensis,* and *M. alba* (*vera*), and three of the other, *Budytes aureocapilla* (Vieillot) *, (*B. citreoloides,* Gould, B. As. pt. xvii. pl.), *B. melanocephala*, and *B. viridis*. The last is identical with the European *B. cinereocapilla,* as remarked by Strickland in 1844 (Ann. Mag. N. H. xiv. p. 115) ; and its phases of plumage, as observed by myself in Bengal, are precisely those described by Dr. A. Leith Adams (Ibis, 1864, p. 20) as occurring in Egypt. All the males of this race attain the colour assigned to *B. cinereocapilla* in spring, or just before taking their departure in Lower Bengal. Mr. Swinhoe (Ibis, 1864, p. 422) has designated the Malayan race *B. melanotis* ; but surely this should be the Sumatran *Motacilla bistrigata* of Raffles, whose description indicates the *B. viridis* (Trans. Linn. Soc. xiii. p. 312). Malayan specimens, in winter dress, which I have recently examined, show no peculiarity that I can perceive ; and Messrs. Mottley and Dillwyn describe the Bornean race, which Mr. Sclater (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 214) refers to *B. viridis,* as, " Above, body olive-green, head grey ; below, chin whitish, and thence to tail bright yellow " †. Mr. Gould has a very large black-headed *Budytes* from Southern India, which appears to be distinct from the ordinary *B. melanocephala* ; and he has recently called my attention to two skins in the British Museum (one of them marked from Behar), presented by Mr. Hodgson, which are remarkable for the extreme paleness of the grey cap, and exemplify yet another particular race in his opinion.

I observe that Dr. Cabanis (Mus. Hein. i. p. 12) gives *M. hodgsoni,* "Blyth," as a synonym of *M. luzoniensis.* This is doubly a mistake, for I did not name the species. *M. lugubris,* Pallas, is given from Kashmir in Mr. Vigne's list of birds from that province and its vicinity (P. Z. S. 1841, p. 431). It is doubtless a mistake. In the India Museum are specimens of *M. maderaspatana* from Kemaon and Western Himalaya; of *M. dukhunensis* from Shikarpore and Kemaon; and of *M. alba* (*vera*) from Ghuzni, Kemaon, Kashmir, and Sinde; so that this also has to be included in the list of Indian *Motacillæ*. In the young of *M. maderaspatana*, the black portion of the plumage is replaced by darkish-ashy: specimen from Nipâl. (For figures of *M. personata* and *M. dukhunensis*, vide Gould's B. As. pt. xiii.)

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* *Cf.* Pucheran, Arch. du Mus. vii. p. 377.

† Mr. C. A. Wright (Ibis, 1864, pp. 62, 63) notices an alleged peculiarity of voice on the part of *B. melanocephala.* Strickland, in 1844 (Ann. Mag. N. H. xiv. p. 115), first referred the British race to *Motacilla campestris* of Pallas, whose description would seem to apply to the young in its first plumage (Z. R.-A. i. p. 504). And a nearly similar race exists in the as yet undescribed *B. taivana,* Swinhoe, of Formosa (P. Z. S. 1863, pp. 274, 334; Ibis, 1866, p. 138). *Motacilla Kalericzencki,* Krynicki (Bull. Mosc. 1839, taf. xx.), = *B. melanocephala,* Licht. (*ibid.,* xxiii. pt. ii. p. 570, taf. viii. f. 3), respectively from the Taurus and the Sea of Aral.

595. NEMORICOLA INDICA (Gmelin); Gould, B. As. pt. xiv. pl. This species occurs also near Pekin (Swinhoe). Mr. Gould changes the name to *Limonidromus*.

596. PIPASTES AGILIS (Sykes), Temm. & Schl. Faun. Japon., *Aves*, tab. xxiii.; Gould, B. As. pt. xvii. pl.

Doubtless the race obtained by Mr. Wallace in Batchian (P. Z. S. 1860, p. 350). Sykes's type specimen in the India Museum has, however, more the appearance of the European *P. trivialis*. I have never heard a Tree-Pipit sing in India; but the song and manners ascribed to *Anthus rufulus* by Sir R. H. Schomburgk (Ibis, 1864, p. 249) are evidently those of a *Pipastes*. The habits and song of *Corydalla rufula* are much the same as in *Anthus pratensis*, as indeed is implied by Dr. Jerdon's description of them.

600. CORYDALLA RUFULA (Vieillot); *Anthus pallescens*, Sundevall.

Dr. Pucheran (Arch. du Mus. vii. p. 362) is inclined to identify *Anthus rufulus*, Vieillot, with *C. striolata*, nobis. Vieillot's figure (Gal. des Ois. pl. 161) is extravagantly coloured; but his description suits the common Bengal bird, and he gives Bengal as the habitat.

605. ANTHUS CERVINUS (Pallas), Middendorff, Sib. Reise, tab. xiv. figs. 1–3; Bree, B. Eur. ii. p. 155, pl.; Jaubert, Rich. Orn. Mid. Fr. p. 284, pl. Syn. *A. cecilii*, Audouin, *A. rufogularis*, Brehm, *A. ruficollis*, Vieillot.

To this bird, in winter plumage, I feel confident that the alleged Siamese *A. pratensis* (*cf.* P. Z. S. 1859, p. 151, and Ibis, 1864, p. 249) should be referred*. Mr. Gould (B. G. B. pt. iii.) remarks of *A. pratensis*, "I question whether it is ever found in India, and I fear I must have misled Mr. Yarrell when I stated that I had seen specimens from thence. Temminck," he adds, "includes it in his catalogue of the birds of Japan; but the Japanese bird is now recognized as distinct, and is called *A. japonicus*." M. Anatole de Demidoff, in his 'Voyage dans la Russie Méridionale' (p. 159), does not consider *A. cervinus* to be sufficiently distinct from *A. pratensis*—a course in which he is followed by several Russian and German ornithologists (*cf.* Eversmann, Bull. Mosc. 1850, ii. p. 570; J. f. O. 1853, p. 289, and Pässler, J. f. O. 1859, p. 464)! I have recently seen undoubted specimens of *Anthus pratensis* from North-western India†.

Of the genera of Pipits recognized by Dr. Jerdon, *Pipastes* and *Anthus* are birds which have a double moult, while *Corydalla* and *Agrodroma*, if not also *Heterura*, have but a single moult; and the young of *Corydalla*, if not also *Agrodroma*, have pale margins to the upper plumage, like young Larks, but do not, like the latter, shed the primaries and rectrices at the first moult. These are short and of a nestling character in young Larks, not so in the young *Corydallæ*.

608. Cochoa viridis, Hodgson; Gray and Mitchell, Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. 68.

A Javan species of this genus exists in *Pteruthius azureus*, Temm. Pl. Col. 274.

609. Pteruthius erythropterus.

A closely allied species to this was obtained by Col. Tickell upon Moulé-yit Mountain, Tenasserim, *P. æralatus*, Tickell (J. A. S. B. xxiv. p. 267).

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* In Mr. Sperling's notice (Ibis, 1864, p. 279), under the head of *A. cervinus*, the name *A. pratensis* should surely be substituted for *A. arboreus*.

† I allow this passage to stand as it was written: but Mr. Gould has recently shown me that the ordinary Himalayan species *A. rosaceus*, Hodgson, with yellow axillaries, is distinct from that commonly referred to *A. cervinus*, which latter should probably be erased from the Indian list.

611. ALLOTRIUS MELANOTIS, Hodgson, is quite distinct from its "double," *A. ænobarbus*, of Java. Mr. Wallace has specimens of both species. Mr. Hodgson figures the egg as white, thickly sprinkled with bright amethystine.

614. LIOTHRIX LUTEUS is "often seen alive in cages from Canton; said to be brought from the interior," according to Mr. Swinhoe (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 298; Ibis, 1865, p. 349).

615, 616, 617, 623, and 624. LIOTHRIX ARGENTAURIS, SIVA STRIGULA, S. CYANOUROPTERA, IXULUS FLAVICOLLIS, and I. OCCIPITALIS, Gould, B. As. pt. xv. pls.

L. argentauris and *S. cyanouroptera* were obtained by Col. Tickell upon Moulé-yit Mountain, Tenasserim.

Mr. Hodgson figures the nest of *Liothrix argentauris* suspended like that of an Oriole; and the egg of *Siva strigula* as blue, with rufous specks (not unlike a Blackbird's); of *S. cyanouroptera* as green, with large rufous spots (nest in a forked branch); of *M. castaneiceps* white, with rufous specks, tending to form a zone at the large end; and of *Proparus chryseus* as dull white, with a few dusky spots.

620. MINLA CINEREA has the throat and lower parts of a very bright yellow in newly moulted plumage.

625. IXULUS STRIATUS.

With regard to Col. Tickell's remarks (Ibis, 1863, p. 113) on the nomenclature of this species, how could I adopt such a name as *Pycnonotus nanus* for it? As far as possible, I adhered to the MS. names Col. Tickell had imposed.

627. YUHINA OCCIPITALIS, Hodgson; Gould, B. As. pt. xv. pl.

629. MYZORNIS PYRRHOURA, Hodgson; *Yuhina pyrrhoura*, Gray & Mitch. Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. 53.

630. HERPORNIS (errore *Erpornis*) XANTHOLEUCA.

This curious form comes nearest, I think, to *Zosterops*. The range of the species extends to Formosa (Ibis, 1866, p. 394).

631. ZOSTEROPS PALPEBROSUS.

The Tenasserim *Zosterops* is one of three or more closely allied races, which present certain constant differences. *Z. flavus*, of Java, is black-tailed; that of Borneo (P. Z. S. 1863,

p. 219) has no black on the lores; and *Z. siamensis*, nobis, the Tenasserim form, has black lores. Mr. Wallace has specimens of the three races. The corresponding races of Sumatra, the Philippines, and perhaps other islands require comparison.

637. LOPHOPHANES DICHROUS.

Of the numerous Himalayan Tits, this one approximates most nearly to the European *L. cristatus* and its American analogue *L. wollweberi* (Baird, B. Am. pl. 53).

640. LOPHOPHANES RUFONUCHALIS.

What is the Titmouse from one of the lesser ranges near the valley of Kashmir, approximated to this by Dr. Adams (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 176)? "Crested; total length 5 in. Iris brick-red; bill bluish-black; forehead and between ear-coverts a dirty white; all upper parts, wings, and tail leaden-ash; breast, belly, and vent ochrey-white; tail moderate, slightly forked; legs and claws leaden-blue."

642. PARUS ÆMODIUS proves to be a true crested *Lophophanes*; there is a skin in the British Museum*.

645. PARUS CINEREUS.

This species is remarkable for its wide range of distribution, extending even to Lombok and Flores, according to Mr. Wallace. In China, Mr. Swinhoe remarks that it blends with *P. minor* (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 270).

MELANIPARUS SEMILARVATUS, Salvadori, is a lately described species "from the Himalaya" (*cf.* Ibis, 1866, p. 415).

654. ACCENTOR STROPHIATUS.

Mr. Hodgson figures a greenish-blue egg.

658. CORVUS TIBETANUS is distinct from *C. corax*. Specimen in British Museum.

660. CORVUS CULMINATUS, Sykes; *C. levaillanti*, Lesson, Pucheran, Rev. Zool. 1853, p. 547†.

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* *Parus elegans*, Lesson, from the Philippines, will fall under *Machlolophus* (*cf.* Pucheran, Rev. Zool. 1854, p. 68). It is doubtless identical with *P. quadrivittatus*, Lafresnaye (Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 129).

† This species certainly inhabits the Andamán Islands, although *C. andamensis*, Tytler, may be distinct (Ibis, 1866, p. 428). I sent an Andamán specimen to Mr. Swinhoe, who has noticed it in P. Z. S. 1863, p. 305.

662. CORVUS TENUIROSTRIS, Moore; *C. enca*, Horsfield.

This is, as I have before remarked (Ibis, 1865, p. 32), a Malayan bird, the range of which extends to Lombok, Flores, Ternate, and Timor, according to Mr. Wallace. It is rightly expunged from Dr. Jerdon's list in his 'Appendix' (ii. p. 873).

663. CORVUS SPLENDENS.

Dr. Jerdon's account of the habits of this species is excellent. I have seen several nests composed more or less, and two almost exclusively, of the wires taken from soda-water bottles, which had been purloined from the heaps of these wires commonly set aside by the native servants till they amount to a saleable quantity (J. A. S. B. xxvii. p. 290). At Akyab this Crow abounds, and also (as I was informed by Mr. W. T. Blanford) at Mandell (high up the Irawádi). At Khyuk Phou a party of seven individuals made their appearance on the 7th of December, 1856, which have since stocked the neighbourhood*. Elsewhere in Arakan this Crow has still no representative; but across the mountains which divide that province from Pegu, in the valley of the Irawádi, again at Moulmein, Tavai, and as far south as Mergui, as also in Siam, it is replaced by a wholly black race, quite similar both in form and habit, but having a much shriller voice (a sort of *shrieking* caw), if possible still more inharmonious than that of the other. There is just a very faint tinge of ash-colour on the nape and breast, where the common Indian Crow is pure cinereous; but this must be specially looked for to be remarked. The Crows of Ceylon are also *melanoid*; but whether they differ in voice from those of continental India I am unaware. Except as regards the difference of voice, the Burmese and Siamese Crows may be said to hold the same relationship to the Indian race which *C. corvus* does to *C. cornix*, or *C. spermolegus* to *C. monedula*. The melanite race of *C. splendens* is erroneously referred to *C. culminatus* by Schomburgk (Ibis, 1864, p. 252).

According to Temminck, this Crow has a wide distribution over the continent of India and the islands of the Asiatic Archipelago. The latter is a mistake, which is not repeated by

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* The precise date is given from the diary of my friend Major Ripley.

Prof. Schlegel. Though found so low as Mergui (the black race), I have been assured that it does not occur in the Malayan Peninsula, at least at Penang, Malacca, and Singapore. Neither does it rid Vultures and Adjutants of their parasites (as Temminck avers); but I have seen a solitary *Gyps bengalensis* tearing at a bit of some animal refuse, which was teased and tormented by a party of some twenty of these Crows, some alighting on its back and pecking at it, and trying every device to draw its attention from what it held under one foot.

664. CORVUS FRUGILEGUS.

The true British Rook, distinct alike from *C. agricola* of Palestine and *C. pastinator* of China and Japan.

666. NUCIFRAGA HEMISPILA.

Mr. Hodgson gives two coloured figures of a fine allied species of Nutcracker, which is wholly unspotted; I shall term it

NUCIFRAGA IMMACULATA, sp. nov.

Uniform ruddy-brown, with darker cap and blackish wings without markings; lower tail-coverts white, and all the rectrices but the middle pair tipped with white for two-thirds of the length of the feather on the outermost pair, and successively less on the others.

668. PICA BOTTANENSIS, Deless.; Gould, B. As. pt. xv. pl.

This is not *P. tibetana*, Hodgson; for the latter is figured by that naturalist as having no white on the scapulars. The Afghan Magpie, *P. bactriana*, Bonap., hardly differs from the European race, but is duller in colouring, with the narrow band above the tail white instead of grey. *P. bottanensis* is considerably larger, with proportionally longer wings, shorter tail, and much larger feet. Mr. Swinhoe has made some remarks on the Magpies of China, Amuria, Kamtschatka, Japan, and Formosa (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 303). *P. bottanensis* is the most distinct from the others of Europe and Asia, next to *P. tibetana*. The last is carefully figured in one of Mr. Hodgson's drawings in the British Museum, with the remarkable peculiarity before noticed of having no white on the scapulars; the tail also is shorter than in other Magpies, and quite uniformly glossed, without that steel-blue band near the end seen in others of the genus. Even another species is figured by Mr. Gould (B. As. pt. xiv.) as *P. leucoptera* from Eastern Siberia, which is remarkable for having the inner webs of the primaries white to the end, or with merely an exceedingly slight terminal dark border.

The nomenclature of the *Urocissæ* (vol. ii. pp. 309–311) is rectified in the 'Appendix' (p. 873), and the species have been figured by Mr. Gould (B. As. pt. xiii.); but the bills of the first three should be represented as deep coral-red, not orange. *U. magnirostris* of Burma and Siam has a dark, blackish iris, while the specimen of *U. sinensis* in the Zoological Gardens has a bright reddish hazel iris. (See, however, Swinhoe on this subject, 'Ibis,' 1865, p. 349.) A fifth beautiful race exists in Mr. Swinhoe's *U. cærulea* of Formosa.

Mr. Gould remarks, of the genus *Garrulus*, that "the fauna of India claims the *G. bispecularis*, the *G. lanceolatus*, and the *G. lidthi*" (B. G. B. pt. i.). The habitat of *G. lidthi*, Bonap. (P. Z. S. 1850, p. 80, *Aves*, pl. xvii.), is still unknown, I believe; and so remarkable a bird could scarcely have escaped observation in the Himálaya. No doubt it probably inhabits some part of Middle Asia; but Middle Asia is not exactly synonymous with "India."

673. Cissa sinensis, Bodd.; Gould, B. As. pt. ix. pl.

The nest and eggs, as figured by Mr. Hodgson, are very Jay-like,—the former placed upon the radiating primary branchlets of a bamboo; the latter brownish, with thickly-set minute dark brown specks. *Urocissa* also builds a Jay's nest, as distinguished from the covered fabric of a Magpie.

676. Dendrocitta sinensis.

Whether this name should be replaced by that of *D. himalayensis* (Ibis, 1865, p. 45) is still doubtful; for the supposed Chinese species is from Formosa, *D. sinensis*, var. *formosæ*, Swinhoe (Ibis, 1866, pp. 296, 394).

677. Dendrocitta frontalis, Macclelland; Gray and Mitchell, Ill. Gen. B. pl. 75.

D. occipitalis, Müller, and *D. rufigaster,* Gould, are identical. *D. bayleyi,* Tytler (J. A. S. B. xxxii. p. 89, and Ibis, 1863, pp. 119–464), is a well-marked small species from the Andamáns.

679. Fregilus himalayanus.

May not this be Mr. Swinhoe's species from North China (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 303), as also that of Afghánistân, where it is stated by Capt. T. Hutton (J. A. S. B. xvi. p. 778) to be abundant during the winter months, arriving in November from the hills to the northward, and departing again about March.

681. Sturnus indicus.

Starlings occur sufficiently near to Calcutta to be sold by the bird-dealers as no rarity, along with Rose Ousels and different Mainas which are taken in the neighbourhood. I have been assured that they occur commonly so near as at Ránigánge. The Indian Starling differs very slightly from *S. vulgaris,* but has a longer and more acuminate bill. A third race, which Mr. Gould has from Erzroom, is identical with the Starling of Afghánistân, and more brilliantly coloured than the others. When series of each are seen together, the difference is sufficiently recognizable. The Starling of North-eastern Asia may perhaps constitute a fourth of these closely allied races.

682. Sturnus unicolor.

I have considerable misgivings that old specimens of *S. indicus,* with long pointed feathers, having their terminal pale spots obsolete, have been mistaken for *S. unicolor;* and I know this to be the case with the supposed *S. unicolor* from Kandahar (J. A. S. B. xvi. p. 779), the spotless specimen being, in this instance, the bright-coloured Afghân Starling. Dr. Bree's figure, intended for *S. unicolor,* appears to me to represent such an example of *S. vulgaris.*

683. Sturnopastor contra (Linn.); Pl. Enl. 281.

S. jalla of Java differs in having the abdominal region pure white; and *S. superciliaris* is the Tenasserim race, with a browner back, extending to Siam, where the white on the forehead and eyebrows increases in quantity; or perhaps adequate series from Siam and the Tenasserim provinces would not prove to differ. Again, there are three races in *Temenuchus melanopterus* (Daud.), of Java, which is pure black and white, *T. tricolor* (Horsf.), of Java, which has a grey back, and *T. burmannicus*, Jerdon, which has considerably less of white on its plumage; but the last name will not, I think, stand, as the *Pastor peguanus*, Lesson (Tr. d'Orn. p. 404), seems to be founded on the young of the same species. *Sturnopastor moorei*, Tytler (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1854, xiv. p. 176), *S. niger*, nobis (Ibis, 1859, p. 211), is founded on cage-specimens of *S. contra* which had assumed a black plumage, the effect probably of some particular kind of diet, as is the case with Bullfinches fed too much upon hempseed. One given to me by Col. Tytler reassumed the ordinary colouring of *S. contra* at its next moult (Ibis, 1860, p. 99). Dr. Jerdon only notices incidentally (vol. i. p. 62) that this species commonly builds in society, several of its huge nests near together*.

685. ACRIDOTHERES GINGINIANUS (Lath.); "*Gracula cinerea*, Cuv.," Pucheran.

686. ACRIDOTHERES FUSCUS (Wagler).

A. ater, Vieillot, "totus niger, caudâ apice albâ," from Pondicherry, would seem to denote the Javan *Pastor griseus* of Horsfield, with an erroneous habitat. *A. cinereus* of Celebes is another closely allied race. *A. fuscus* may occasionally be seen in the streets of Calcutta, and is the prevalent species in the neighbourhood of the salt-water lake in the immediate vicinity. Col. Tytler informed me that he had seen *A. ginginianus* within the ramparts of Fort William; but its appearance there is rare and quite exceptional. He has also given an interesting account of these birds becoming accustomed to target-practice (Ann. Mag, N. H. 1854, xiv. p. 174).

687. TEMENUCHUS PAGODARUM (Gmel.); Vieill. Gal. des Ois. pl. 148.

688. TEMENUCHUS MALABARICUS.

Dr. Cabanis (Mus. Hein. i. p. 205) erroneously refers *T. blythi* (no. 689) to this species. *Hetærornis albofrontata*, Layard (Ann. Mag. N. H. 1854, xiii. p. 217), from Ceylon, is another very distinct species of *Temenuchus*.

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* *S. nigricollis* of Siam and Southern China would appear to resemble *S. contra* in its mode of building (Ibis, 1866, p. 293).

690. PASTOR ROSEUS.

The young of this species in the first or nestling-plumage was sent to me from Ceylon by Mr. Layard. Dr. Jerdon remarks that most of the specimens met with in India are young birds in imperfect plumage. He alludes rather to those in winter garb, wherein the colours of the plumage are overlaid with the brown edgings to the feathers; as the latter disappear, the colouring brightens considerably, and there is hardly any external difference between the sexes.

692. EULABES RELIGIOSA is more common in Ceylon than *E. ptilogenys*. The egg is described by Mr. Day ('Land of the Permauls,' Madras: 1863, p. 464) as being of "a blue colour, $1 \times \frac{8}{10}$ inch in size."

693. EULABES INTERMEDIA (A. Hay); *Gracula religiosa*, Vieill. Gal. des Ois. pl. 95, is the species of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and is therefore the Nicobar bird noticed as *Gracula indica* in the narrative of the 'Novara' Expedition, but called *G. javana* in the special ornithological part of the voyage (Von Pelzeln, Reise 'Novara,' i. p. 88). I once received a living albino from one of the Nicobar Islands.

695 and 696. PLOCEUS MANYAR and P. BENGALENSIS.

These two species commonly associate in the same flock. The *P. bengalensis* of Sundevall is *P. baya*. The true *P. philippinus* (L.), *Loxia hypoxantha*, Daud., was sent from Siam by the late Sir R. H. Schomburgk. *Loxia javanensis*, Lesson, is identified with *P. philippinus* (*verus*) by Dr. Pucheran (Rev. Zool. 1854, p. 67).

697. The true *Munia malacca* from Borneo (in Mr. Wallace's Collection) is distinct from the Indian race; and another of the same particular type, *M. formosana*, is described by Mr. Swinhoe (Ibis, 1865, p. 356).

700. MUNIA PECTORALIS.

The Ceylon bird described under this name, with a mark of doubt (J. A. S. B. xx. p. 178), I have since designated *M. kelaarti*.

701. MUNIA STRIATA is common in the Andamáns.

702. MUNIA ACUTICAUDA inhabits China and Formosa, if not also Japan (Ibis, 1863, p. 379, and 1865, p. 348).

705. ESTRELDA FORMOSA has been taken in the neighbourhood of Lucknow (where I have procured it), but much less plentifully than *E. amandava.* At Omerkántak, near the source of the Nerbudda, it occurs very abundantly. There are three allied red species, *E. amandava* of India, *E. punicea* of Java, and *E. flavidiventris* of Timor. Which is it that is brought to China from the Straits in large numbers as a cage-bird (Ibis, 1865, p. 293)?

706. PASSER INDICUS.

The Nubian Sparrow appears to be identical (Ibis, 1865, p. 44) with the Indian. "When first at Akyab, during the rainy season, I remarked *P. montanus* to be the common Sparrow about the streets, considerably outnumbering *P. indicus*; whereas in the cold season the latter is the prevalent Sparrow about Akyab. Southwards, however, I only on two occasions noticed the common Indian Sparrow (once at Moulmein, and once in a Burmese village higher up the Salouin); whereas *P. montanus* was in extreme abundance everywhere, extending southward to Singapore, and likewise inhabiting Java; with precisely the same habits as the other. I observed it, numerously, as far south as Tavai and Mergui" (but it is unknown in Bengal and the Peninsula of India). "At Thyet Myo, on the Irawádi, Dr. Jerdon observed not only *P. indicus* and *P. montanus* common, but also the very pretty little *P. flaveolus.* When at Pahpoon, in Upper Martaban, in the month of November, three or four pairs of *P. montanus* appeared for one day only, entering the few human abodes in the most familiar manner, and apparently seeking convenient nooks for nesting-places; but I saw no others in that wild forest region" (J. A. S. B. xxxii. p. 77). Mr. Gould quotes a part of the foregoing passage (in his 'Birds of Great Britain,' pt. iv.), but, confounding Burma with India, leads his readers to suppose that *P. montanus* inhabits the latter country westward of the Bay of Bengal; whereas it does not occur in India southward of the Sikhim

Himálaya. Dr. Cabanis gives it from Manilla, and Mr. Swinhoe from Formosa (Ibis, 1866, p. 401).

707. PASSER SALICARIUS.

In a letter lately received from Hansi, Dr. Jerdon remarks that this bird is "abundant, in huge flocks, westward from Delhi." Wherever it occurs, it would appear to be much more highly gregarious than *P. domesticus.*

708. PASSER CINNAMOMEUS only differs from *P. rutilans* (Temm. Pl. Col. 588. fig. 2) of China by the yellow tinge on the cheeks and lower parts. It is therefore, probably, a Tree-, and not a House-Sparrow.

711. PASSER FLAVICOLLIS.

The closely allied South African *Gymnorhis superciliaris,* nobis (J. A. S. B. 1845, xiv. p. 553), *Pyrgita petronoides,* Lafr., B. (Consp. Av. i. p. 513), *P. petronella,* B. (*ibid.*; C. R. xxxvii. p. 916), and *Xanthodina flavigula,* Sundevall (Œfvers. K. V. Acad. Förh. 1849, p. 98), is a typical member of Hodgson's genus *Gymnorhis* (J. A. S. B. 1844), founded on the Indian *P. flavicollis.* I have added a third of the same minimum type as *P. canicapillus* (Ibis, 1865, p. 46), the habitat of which is unknown. These birds are linked to the ordinary Sparrows by the African *Passer* (or *Pyrgitopsis*) *simplex* (Licht.), which has an intermediate form of bill and wants the yellow pectoral spot.

716. EMBERIZA HUTTONI.

Mr. Gould has good specimens of this species, which is nearly allied to *E. cinerea,* Strickl. I suspect that *E. hortulana* from India (no. 715) needs comparing with *E. cernutii,* De Filippi, from Armenia and Persia (*cf.* Ibis, 1864, p. 400).

717. EMBERIZA SPODIOCEPHALA, Pallas; Middend. Sib. Reise, ii. tab. xiii. figs. 5–8, *cum ovis*; *E. personata,* Temm. Pl. Col. 580, Faun. Japon., *Aves,* pl. 59 B.; *E. sordida,* Hodgson; *E. hortulana,* Gray.

719. EMBERIZA FUCATA, Pallas; Temm. & Schl. Faun. Japon., *Aves,* tab. lvii.; also *E. rutila* in tab. lvi.

720. EMBERIZA PUSILLA, Pallas; Middend. Sib. Reise, ii. tab. xiii. fig. 4 (*ova*); Jaubert, Rich. Orn. Mid. France, p. 163.

722. EUSPIZA LUTEOLA (Sparrm.); Gray and Mitchell, Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. 91.

723. EUSPIZA AUREOLA (Pall.); *Emberiza aureola*, Middend. Sib. Reise, tab. xiii. fig. 9 (*ovum*); Radde, Reisen, taf. iv. fig. 2, *a–h*.

726. HESPERIPHONA AFFINIS.

The male of this species is figured in one of Mr. Hodgson's drawings as *H. icterioides*; and the lower figure in Mr. Gould's plate (B. As. pt. iii.) evidently represents a female of *H. affinis*, but with an ashy hood; while the upper figure behind that of the male represents the female of *H. icterioides*. A second American species of this genus, akin to *H. vespertinus*, is *Coccothraustes abeillii*, Lesson; *C. maculipennis*, Sclater (P. Z. S. 1860, p. 251, Aves, pl. clxiii.), from Mexico (*cf.* Ibis, 1866, p. 206).

727. MYCEROBAS MELANOXANTHUS (Hodgson); Gray and Mitchell, Ill. Gen. Birds, pl. lxxxviii.

Of Mr. Gould's two figures (B. As. pt. iii.) with spotted underparts, I believe that the yellower example represents the immature plumage, and the paler that of the mature female.

730. PYRRHULA ERYTHACA, Blyth, J. A. S. B. xxxii. p. 459, and Ibis, 1863, pl. x. p. 440.

The tail in the figure just cited is wrongly represented, as it exactly resembles in shape that of *P. nipalensis*.

734. LOXIA HIMALAYANA.

A White-winged Crossbill has also been received from the Himálaya, which Bonaparte and Schlegel (Mon. des Loxiens, pl. 10) refer to the North American *L. leucoptera*, Gm., and not to the North Asiatic *L. bifasciata*, Nilsson. Mr. Gould, however (in his 'Birds of Great Britain, pt. v.), assigns it to the latter race, and remarks that it is doubtless the Amurian *L. leucoptera* of Von Schrenck. The distinctions between the two birds were well pointed out by M. de Sélys-Longchamps some five-and-twenty years since (Faune Belge, p. 77).

735. HÆMATOSPIZA SIPAHI (Hodgs.); Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pl. 26.

736. Propyrrhula subbimachala (Hodgs.); Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pl. 13.

737. Carpodacus rubicilla (Guldenst.); Bp. et. Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pl. 26.

738. Carpodacus erythrinus (Pall.); Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens. pl. 14.

The breeding of this bird in the Botanical Gardens at Helsingfors is mentioned (Ibis, 1861, p. 111); but its alleged "low flute-like voice" rather puzzles me. It is a common cage-bird in India, where its notes are as I have described them (and as quoted by Dr. Jerdon). The *C. roseus* of Dr. A. Leith Adams (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 177) must surely refer to this species; and his second species (no. 68) is probably *Propasser rhodochlamys*.

739. Propasser rhodopeplus (Vigors); Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pl. 21.

740. Propasser thura (Bp.); Moore, P. Z. S. 1855, Aves, pls. 113, 114.

P. frontalis, nobis (no. 744), is identical with this species.

741. Propasser rhodochlamys (Brandt); Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pls. 24, 25.

Dr. Cabanis notes it from Siberia.

742. Propasser rhodochrous (Vigors); Bp. et. Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pl. 28.

745. Propasser murrayi, nobis, J. A. S. B. xxxii. p. 458.

There remains a female specimen in the Asiatic Society's Museum at Calcutta, which I had considered to be that of *P. thura*, and which indicates another species yet to be described (*cf.* Ibis, 1865, p. 44).

746. Procarduelis nipalensis (Hodgs.); *Pyrrha saturata*, Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pl. 29.

A second species of *Procarduelis* is referred to by Dr. F. Stoliczka as inhabiting the eastern parts of Ladakh (J. A. S. B. 1865, xxxiv. p. 111). (*Cf.* Ibis, 1866, p. 412.)

747. Pyrrhospiza punicea, Hodgs.; Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pls. 27, 28).

748. Callacanthis burtoni.

This seems to be not distantly allied to *Erythrospiza rhodoptera* (Licht.); *Fringilla sanguinea,* Gould (Bp. et Schl. Mon. Loxiens, pls. 30, 31); type of *Rhodopechys,* Cabanis, which may be expected to turn up in Kashmir or Ladakh.

751. Metoponia pusilla (Pall.); *Orægithus pusillus,* Cab. Journ. für Ornith. 1854, taf. i.

I observe that Mr. Tristram refers this bird to *Serinus* (P. Z. S. 1864, p. 447), as I did formerly (J. A. S. B. xxiv. p. 257); and he describes a *Serinus aurifrons,*—the present species being the *S.* (?) *aurifrons* (no. 680) of my 'Catalogue of the Birds in the Asiatic Society's Museum' at Calcutta.

753. Fringillauda nemoricola.

Not uncommon in Darjeeling collections. It is a long-winged Ground-Linnet, without any red in its plumage—and is in no respect akin to the Larks, that I can perceive. Dr. A. L. Adams remarks that "its call-note is like the Linnet's" (P. Z. S. 1864, p. 184); elsewhere that "the chirp is like the Snow Flake (Nanee), and flight exactly similar" (P. Z. S. 1858, p. 482). But he does not note the Snowfleck in either of his lists, and may not have here meant *Plectrophanes nivalis,* but *Montifringilla adamsi.* He adds that it is strictly an Himalayan bird, plentiful at high elevations at all seasons, and feeding around the margin of the melting snow. Generally seen in large flocks, flitting from place to place like Snow-Buntings. As winter advances, they migrate southward, and are found in the lower regions.

755. Mirafra affinis, Jerdon; "*Alauda coromandeliana,* Cuv.," Pucheran, Rev. Zool. 1854, p. 63.

756. Mirafra erythroptera ocurs at Sáhárunpore.

759. Ammomanes lusitanica is not *A. pallida* as I suggested in the 'Appendix' (p. 874).

760. Pyrrhulauda grisea (Scop.); "*Fringilla melanoleuca,* Lesson," Pucheran, Rev. Zool. 1854, p. 65.

Of the genus *Melanocorypha* (vol. ii. p. 427), two species are inserted by Dr. Jerdon in his Appendix, viz.:—

MELANOCORYPHA TATARICA (Pallas); and

M. TORQUATA, nobis, J. A. S. B. xiii. p. 962, xv. p. 476. This is not *Alauda bimaculata*, Ménétriés, which can be only doubtfully separated from *Calandrella brachydactyla* (L.). *M. torquata* resembles *M. calandra*, but is smaller, with proportionally shorter tail, having much less white on its outermost feathers. A specimen lately received from Dr. Jerdon has barely a trace of the usual great black mark on each side of the breast, which is sometimes very large, extending across to meet its opposite in front, as in the example from which I bestowed the name upon the species. In a letter from Hansi, Dr. Jerdon writes, "I have obtained this species. It is not abundant here, but is said to be more common further west and south. The Asiatic species of *Melanocorypha* are four in number:—1. *M. tatarica* (Pallas). 2. *M. mongolica* (Pallas); Radde, Reisen, &c. taf. iii. f. 1; *Alauda sinensis*, Waterhouse, P. Z. S. 1839, p. 60. 3. *M. calandra* (L.); *Alauda torquata*, Gmelin. 4. *M. torquata*, nobis. The *Alauda sibirica*, Pallas, is a large typical species of *Calandrella**.

761. ALAUDULA† RAYTAL.

This cannot be the *Calandrella pispoletta* (Pallas) of Mr. Swinhoe (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 271), described as having a more conical bill and larger tail than the European *C. brachydactyla*. Again, the "Raytal" of Mr. Hodgson's drawings would seem different—the structure being similar, but the colouring much more as in *Alauda arvensis*. *A. raytal* is noted by Dr. A. Leith Adams as "common in the wastes of Ladakh" (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 185). But his "Sand-Lark" (P. Z. S. 1858, p. 485) remains to be identified. "Abundant on the banks of the Indus and Northern Scinde. Size of the Grey Linnet. Colour a sandy brown; bill short and nearly conical; hind claw long and curved; tail moderate and slightly forked, the upper feathers of which are black," but otherwise similarly marked to *Galerita cristata*. I think that such a bird is figured in one of Dr. Buchanan Hamilton's drawings, now with the

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* Mr. Gould has received from Afghánistân a large species, with a remarkably slender bill, which he designates *Melanocorypha maxima*.

† Not *Alaudala*, as in Horsfield's Catalogue, and copied by Dr. Jerdon.

Asiatic Society at Calcutta. Dr. Adams adds (*loc. cit.*), "On the lower Himalayan Range I saw on one occasion a species of Lark or Titlark, of the size of *Alauda arvensis*; colour of body was a sandy brown; but very distinguishing marks were a black throat and streak round the eyes of the same colour. The female was not so distinctly marked." This was, doubtless, an *Otocorys.*

764. OTOCORYS LONGIROSTRIS.

I have lately received two pairs from Dr. Jerdon, procured in the desert country north-west of Delhi. This species is distinguished from *O. penicillata* by its larger size, and by the black of the ear-coverts of the male not being continuous with that of the sides of the breast; the black auricular tufts are also less developed, and the bill decidedly differs in shape. The sexes differ considerably in colouring, and the females are smaller, the closed wings respectively measuring 5 inches and 4·5–4·75 inches. The female has no black except on the breast, where the gorget is very much smaller than in the male; crown, back, and wings dusky-brown, with pale margins to the feathers; a narrow white supercilium. *O. penicillata* was identified by Mr. Swinhoe with *O. alpestris* (P. Z. S. 1863, p. 271); but Mr. Tristram remarks that Swinhoe's Tientsin specimen is quite different from *O. penicillata,* and is, he supposes, the true *O. alpestris,* and not *O. penicillata* (P. Z. S. 1864, p. 435, and Ibis, 1866, p. 289). Mr. Tristram has shown also the distinctions of *O. bilopha* (Ibis, 1859, p. 421. I have compared the four Old-World races, and fully recognized their distinctness.

There is at present insufficient authority for including *O. penicillata* (no. 763) as an Indian bird.

766. ALAUDA TRIBORHYNCHA.

A specimen lately received from Dr. Jerdon thus marked by him, differs in no respect that I can perceive from the European *A. arvensis,* not even in the proportions of its primaries; and the closed wing measures 4·5 inches. Mr. Gould, however, refers it to *A. moreatica,* Bonap., in which I fail to perceive sufficient distinction.

767. Alauda gulgula.

A. cœlivox, Swinhoe, comes nearer, I find, to *A. malabarica* (no. 768) than to this, and has a pointed though scarcely elongated crest, while that of *A. gulgula* is the same as in *A. arvensis.*

769. Galerita cristata.

In my Catalogue of the Birds in the Asiatic Society's Museum at Calcutta (1849), I placed *G. chendoola* as a different species from *G. cristata.* This arose from having received an Algerian specimen as *G. cristata,* which proves to be *G. macrorhyncha,* Tristram (Ibis, 1859, p. 57); *G. randoni,* Loche (Rev. Zool. 1860, p. 150, pl. xi. fig. 2).

Galerita boysi, nobis, proves to be a good species. Examples from Lahore have the wing 3·5 in., and the rest in proportion; otherwise resembling *G. cristata.*

[To be continued.]

II.—*Egypt Revisited.* By E. Cavendish Taylor, M.A., F.Z.S.

I arrived at Alexandria, in Egypt, on the morning of December 15th, 1863, just ten years and one month after my first visit to that country, some ornithological notes on which were published in the first volume of 'The Ibis,' that for 1859. I found Alexandria very much increased, improved, and Europeanized during the decade that had elapsed since I had last seen it; but European influences seemed to have affected the climate also, for it rained the greater part of the time I stayed there, and the streets were filled with deep, black mud, such as I have never seen in any other town except Tunis. From Alexandria I went to Cairo by railway in seven hours. On my first visit, before the railway existed, the same journey took me, by boat, seven days. Cairo has resisted European innovations, and did not seem to me in the least changed. During the six weeks that I remained there, I devoted myself to looking up the ornithology of the immediate neighbourhood, and I got a good many birds worth having, especially three specimens of *Falco*